

The
Thin Blue Line

Vol. 58, No. 4

Published Monthly

April, 2003

REMEMBERING

*Our Brother
and Sister Officers
Serving Our Nation...*

National Police Week May 2003

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Police Week is always the week of May 15, Peace Officers Memorial Day. The Candlelight Vigil is always May 13.

May 9, 2003 (Friday)
9th Annual Blue Mass

May 11, 2003 (Sunday)
8th Annual Law Ride

May 12, 2003 (Monday)
Police Unity Tour Arrival Ceremony

May 13, 2003 (Tuesday)
15th Annual Candlelight Vigil, National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial

May 14, 2003 (Wednesday)
National Concerns of Police Survivors' Seminars

Eighth Annual Emerald Society & Pipeband March and Service

May 15, 2003 (Thursday)
22nd Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Day Services

FOP/FOPA Wreathlaying Ceremony
National Police Survivors' Seminars
Concerns of Police Survivors
Fourth Annual National Police Challenge 50-Kilometer Relay Race

CALIFORNIA

Candlelight Vigil

Thursday, May 8, 8:30 - 9:30 p.m.
State Capitol, California Peace Officers' Memorial Monument

Private Indoor Ceremony

Friday, May 9, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
State Capitol

Walk of Honor

Friday, May 9, 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Capitol steps west side

Outdoor Ceremony

Friday, May 9, 10:30 a.m.
State Capitol, California Peace Officers' Memorial Monument

LOS ANGELES

LAPD Memorial Service

Friday, May 16, 1:30 p.m.
Parker Center

L.A. County Peace Officer Memorial

Thursday, May 1, 10:00 a.m.
L.A. Sheriffs Star Center, Whittier



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President's Message

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*Certain restrictions apply to loan amount, and length of term. To qualify for terms exceeding 144 months amount financed must be \$25,000 or over and the vehicle must be equipped with all of the following facilities: sleeping accommodations, built-in-cooking equipment and toilet facilities with holding tank.

[†]Amount financed must be a minimum loan amount of \$5,000 - to exceed 48 month financing.

[‡]Wholesale value must be a minimum loan amount of \$5,000 - to exceed 48 month financing.

Payment Examples A \$30,000 **new** Motorhome loan at 8.75% APR and financed for 240 months would have monthly payments of \$265.31. Up to 100% Financing. A \$30,000 **used** Motorhome loan at 9.00% APR and financed for 240 months would have monthly payments of \$270.13. Up to 100% Financing.

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REAL CHANGE IS HAPPENING

Bob Baker, President

For the past several years, the Directors of the Police Protective League have been raising our voices around town in an attempt to effect change at the Department. And although we may be getting a little hoarse from all this talking, we're happy to see that we're now starting to see some real results at the rank-and-file level.

When Chief Bratton took office last fall, it represented a new hope for the LAPD. After years of uncertainty and questioning leadership, we all felt that we finally had an opportunity before us to work with someone who was reasonable and would take into account the concerns of the union and the officers.

We are all aware that a period of transition must take place before real change is enacted, but officers are anxious to see results now. Now, after five years under the heavy hand of the previous administration, the time has come for us to see reforms implemented at the rank-and-file level.

The first target was the discipline system. For years, the League has urged department management to make revisions to this outdated system, to punish serious misconduct severely, minor misconduct or poor judgment appropriately and dismiss frivolous allegations imme-

diately. But our calls went unheeded – until recently. Now the Police Commission and Department management have finally begun to listen to the concerns of the rank and file and instituted *real* changes to make this system more supportive of officers doing their jobs.

The Police Commission revised the discipline policy to allow commanding officers to decide whether to handle minor complaints as either non-disciplinary or disciplinary. Officers will also have the option to participate in Alternate Complaint Resolution as part of the non-disciplinary complaint process. Under this system, officers can meet and discuss the issue with the complainant in a confidential forum, rather than being formally investigated.

Chief Bratton and his staff have also pledged to revise the use of the complaint history so that only sustained and guilty findings will be given consideration in promotions, pay grade increases, transfers and performance reviews. In all other circumstances, complaints will be disclosed only on a right-to-know/need-to-know basis through Internal Affairs. What's more is that they are working to ensure that complaints will be handled quickly so that you don't have to put your career on hold while a

matter is resolved.

The Chief summed it up best in materials distributed to officers, in which he said, "I have made it clear that we won't tolerate corruption, brutality or serious misconduct. If you are guilty of those offenses, we'll throw the book at you. But let me make it equally clear that the game of 'Gotcha!' in this Department is over." These are encouraging words, and we hope these themes continue.

What is equally as important as instituting change is communicating these changes to the officers. While Chief Bratton is very adept at communicating openly and honestly in the media and at forums such as roll calls, oftentimes his messages are not spread to the whole of the rank and file. He is taking steps in the right direction by using videos and communications pieces to tell officers about changes in the discipline system. We need to make sure that not only are changes being made to directly benefit the officers, but that they are also hearing about it in a timely manner.

The months ahead are sure to provide many challenges not just for our Department, but also for our city and nation. With a very thin blue line, the LAPD is often faced with the daunting task of doing more with less. As more and more responsibilities are placed on local departments to serve as the first line of defense in the event of a terrorist attack, we must balance this need with the everyday needs our residents have, such as protection from gang violence or other criminal acts.

We are all painfully aware of the budget crisis that threatens our city and department budgets. We want to assure

you that the League is taking steps to ensure that you will personally be protected, as we continue our contract negotiations with the Department, and that Los Angeles' public safety personnel on the whole will be protected. We are collaborating with other law enforcement entities to lobby in Sacramento and Washington, DC, to ensure that both state and federal funding for law enforcement is not sacrificed, particularly at a time when we are expected to do more to protect our nation with less officers – as those involved with the military leave our department to fight abroad – and less money.

Last month, the National League of Cities held the 2003 City Lobby Day in Washington, DC, to urge, among other things, continued investment in public safety infrastructure and funding. The participating mayors asked federal officials for \$7 billion in new first responder grants to help cities hire, equip and train additional personnel, \$3 billion in grants to hire 30,000 additional law enforcement personnel, buy equipment and provide training, and the fulfillment of several promises, including \$3.5 billion in new funding for first responders this fiscal year (and an additional \$3.5 billion next year) and full funding for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) next year (\$1.01 billion), the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (\$525 million) and the Byrne Block Grant (\$594 million).

The message the League of Cities is sending is what we have been saying all along: if the federal government wants

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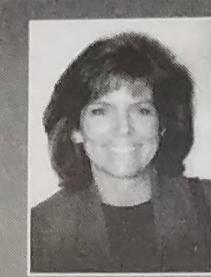
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MTA/LAPD TRANSIT CONTRACT

Mitzi Grasso, Vice President

Last month, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) board voted to end the agency's contract with the LAPD and instead hire the Sheriff's Department to take over all transit police services.

The 9-3 vote came after the board rejected last-minute pleas from Mayor James K. Hahn and Police Chief William J. Bratton to keep the LAPD as part of the MTA security team. Beginning May 1, sheriff's deputies will patrol the Red Line subway and all city buses and the City of Los Angeles will lose nearly \$30 million a year. Chief Bratton said it best when he described the vote as "short-sighted and unfortunate for the citizens of Los Angeles."

The vote to end the contract with the LAPD is disappointing on many fronts. For starters, the arrangement of utilizing the services of both the LAPD and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has been effective in keeping crime levels low since the MTA initiated its agreements in 1997. Secondly, the LAPD Transit Group was uniquely qualified and had the resources and base of experience and knowledge to protect the subway and bus riders, and also the ability to implement the improvements offered in the MTA's new security policy. Finally, the LAPD was the only agency bidding that had the leadership and knowledge of Deputy Chief Sharon Papa, the former Police Chief of the MTA.

The LAPD is entering a new era under Chief William Bratton, and MTA failed to take advantage of his leadership and proven crime-fighting record. Our officers know the Red Line and the city buses, they know the crime problems that can and do arise there and they know the needs of the riders.

LAPPL Community Outreach Committee

Working in conjunction with the Los Angeles Police Protective League, Los

Angeles residents can learn how to better fight crime and improve their communities – that is the message we're hoping our members will spread in the community.

The League is actively seeking community members from every corner of Los Angeles to participate in our Community Outreach Committee. The goal of the committee is to make the League more responsive to local needs, by facilitating the creation of Community Outreach Groups throughout the City of Los Angeles. Additionally, Community Outreach members will help the LAPPL disseminate information back to the community on important public safety projects. This year, one of our goals is to broaden our reach in the community to interact with people from all neighborhoods and address their specific safety concerns.

The LAPPL strongly embraces the philosophy of community policing. We recognize that community policing is based upon a partnership between police officers and the community. Since the start of the year, the LAPPL has been holding regular meetings with community leaders where we talk about important public safety issues. The Board of Directors of the League believes that by working together with community leaders, we can make our city safer.

If you know someone who would be an ideal candidate to be invited to participate in our Community Outreach Committee, please e-mail his or her name, address, phone number and e-mail address to me at mitzigrasso@lappl.org.

Community Protection Act

United States House Resolution (H.R. 218), also known as the Community Protection Act, is important public safety legislation that is now pending in Congress. It would give nationwide con-

continued on page 16

EDITORIAL POLICY

- Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Los Angeles Police Protective League.
- No responsibility is assumed for unsolicited material.
- Letters or articles submitted shall be limited to 350 words and must be accompanied by writer's name but may be reprinted without name or address at writer's request.
- Freedom of expression is recognized within the bounds of good taste and the limits of available space.
- The Board of Directors reserve the right to edit submissions and/or include Editor's Notes to any submitted materials.
- Deadline for submissions to the Thin Blue Line is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

NOTICE: The LAPPL is affiliated with the following organizations on the national and state level.

IUPA

International Union of Police Associations, A.F.L.-C.I.O., representing over 100,000 police officer members in Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Alaska and the continental U.S. in 580 locals.

NAPO

National Association of Police Organizations representing nearly 220,000 police officer members in 4,000 police associations nationwide.

CCLEA

California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations representing 28 California police officer associations.

SCALE

Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement representing 10 police officer associations.

BIG 11

An informal association of the 11 largest sworn law enforcement associations in the State of California.

BIG 50

An informal association of the 50 largest law enforcement associations in the United States.

LACOPS

Los Angeles County Organization of Police and Sheriffs consisting of all the law enforcement associations in Los Angeles.

THIN BLUE LINE (THE)

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

ISSN #0279-697X USPS 440-930

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Designed & Produced by Mark Deitch & Associates, Inc.

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SHOULD YOU RESPOND TO ALL BURGLAR ALARMS?

Ted Hunt, Secretary

Not long ago there was a big controversy about LAPD's Burglar Alarm policy. Everyone had an opinion. But few of the opinions were based on factual information.

This article is based on the research of Rana Sampson, who is a former NYPD officer and currently a consultant on police issues. (Rana Sampson. "False Burglar Alarms," Problem-Oriented Guides for Police Series 5, United States Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, #99-CW-X-K004, June 17, 2002)

The issue regarding whether or not to respond to burglar alarms is pretty simple:

First, do burglar alarms help police catch burglars thus reducing the risk of more burglaries in the community? And second, are some burglar alarms unreliable, which result in an unacceptably low ratio of police costs to community benefit? (Cost-Benefit Ratio)

Sampson's research showed that there are essentially three major causes of false burglar alarms:

- Faulty or inappropriately selected equipment
- Poor installation
- User error

Research conducted through the International Association of Chiefs of Police indicates that approximately 20 percent of all the alarm systems cause 80 percent of

the false alarms. Nationwide, false alarms account for 10 to 25 percent of all calls to police.

When patrol officers spend time responding to false burglar alarms, they are taken away from working actual, verified crime problems at locations where crime and disorder are occurring in the community.

When Chief Bratton urged the change in policy, he was simply trying to more efficiently and effectively use a patrol officer's time and efforts. That is because each false alarm requires approximately 20 minutes of police time. In the case of major cities, that usually means the time of two officers. It costs the taxpayers as much as \$1.5 billion per year in police time to respond to burglar alarms.

For example, in 1998, Los Angeles had approximately 3,000 alarms per week and 97 percent of them were false. That is the equivalent of 41 officers, 24 hours per day, seven days per week or an estimated 175 full-time officers.

In the City of Chicago, each year approximately 98% of burglar alarms are false. That is equivalent to 195 full-time officers.

Each year there are thousands of alarms in Salt Lake City. In 1999, only three-tenths (3/10) of one (1) percent were actually tied to crimes. In 1997, Fort Worth, Texas expended approximately \$1.5 mil-

lion responding to false burglar alarms.

Burglary is one of the most frequent crimes. But the national clearance rate averages below 15 percent. A study in Charlotte, North Carolina, found that police are more likely to catch burglars in the act, on premises of a burglary when there is no alarm, as they are likely to catch burglars in the act on premises with alarms.

Considering the fact in perspective, changing the LAPD Burglar Alarm Response Policy was a smart move.

But there is more. Sampson recommended the following as the best things police agencies can do to respond to the issue of burglar alarms.

First, require alarm companies to visually verify the legitimacy of the alarms before calling the police.

Second, charge a fee for service for all false hold-up, duress and panic alarms.

Third, respond to robbery, duress or panic alarms only if they come from a stationary building (as opposed to alarms from a mobile source or personal alarms).

She also wrote about other considerations but they have limited effectiveness.

Establish a fee for service for all false alarm calls: *Fee for service is different from a fine. It is unclear whether a fee for service reduces false alarms, though it does help reimburse cities for police services.*

Establish an ordinance with escalating fines for false alarms: *Maybe too costly to administer. Collection rates can be as low as 60 percent unless there is a significant follow-up (collection).*

Alert alarm companies about false burglar alarms abusers: *Effective only if the alarm company works with the alarm owner to remedy abuses.*

Finally, the least effective policy, which was NOT recommended, was to respond "priority one" to alarm calls.

In sum, there is no empirical evidence to indicate that burglar alarms help police catch burglars and thereby reduce the risk of more burglaries in the community. Additionally, the cost/benefit ratio (what it costs the taxpayers for the police to do compared to the benefit in keeping the community safe) to respond to unverified burglar alarms is unacceptably low.

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Tim Sands, Treasurer

Medical Information

I receive calls all the time from members who have medical questions and would like to speak to or correspond with an advisor regarding their concerns. I contacted Police Relief and was informed that if you are a Blue Cross subscriber you can correspond with a Health Advisor through Blue Cross's web site by logging on to www.blue-cross.com. The member will need his/her Blue Cross pin number for access. The name of the link is "SUBIMO." Blue Cross also has a 24/7 nurses hotline called Med-Call. The member can call (888) 629-4000 and receive advice from a nurse.

Should you have any questions regarding these problems, please contact Police Relief (LAPRA) at (888) 252-7721.

New Assembly Bill Re: Off-Duty Employment

Assembly Bill 359 was introduced by Assemblyman Koretz and is supported by the LAPPL. The bill, if passed, will amend section 3302 of the Government Code which now reads:

"Under existing law, no public safety officer shall be prohibited from engaging, or be coerced or required to engage, in political activity. In addition, no public safety officer shall be prohibited from seeking election to, or serving as a member of, the governing board of a school district."

This bill would require that no public

safety officer be prohibited from working off-duty, except pursuant to written regulations adopted by the employing public safety department. This bill would prohibit consent to work off-duty from being unreasonably withheld by the public safety officer's employer.

The new bill reads as follows:

The People of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 3302 of the Government Code is amended to read:

3302. (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, or whenever on duty or in uniform, no public safety officer shall be prohibited from engaging, or be coerced or required to engage, in political activity.

No public safety officer shall be prohibited from seeking election to, or serving as a member of, the governing board of a school district.

No public safety officer shall be prohibited from working off-duty, except pursuant to written regulations adopted by the employing public safety department. Consent to work off-duty may not be reasonably withheld by the public safety officer's employer. AB 359 has many hurdles to overcome before it becomes law. However, it is definitely a move in the right direction.

Reminder! Until it does become law, a member can grieve a denial of work permit if he or she feels it was done without cause.

Take care and be safe.

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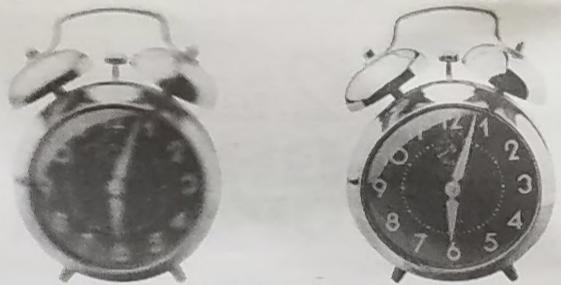
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WHY ARE WE INVOLVED WITH POLITICS?

Don Lint

In a letter sent to me last month the opinion was expressed that we should not be involved in any politics outside of Los Angeles County.

That is an interesting view that from time to time is expressed to us. Take into consideration state legislation such as "The Peace Officers Bill Of Rights Act." This was legislation sponsored by the Police Protective League and won on behalf of every police officer in the state. Just imagine what would have happened if we had not reached out beyond Los Angeles County to get the POBRA into law. What kind of rights would you have had violated under Bernard Parks? And just recently we sponsored legislation that allows you to sue any manager for knowingly violating the Police Officer Bill Of Rights.

How about CLEAR, and COPS FUNDING. Many of you reading this are being paid as a result of these programs, and who spearheaded them? That's right, the Police Protective League. At least 15% of our police officers are being paid as a result of these programs and that equates to more bad guys going to jail because we can put more police in the field. On the federal level we are involved with the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO). They are kind of the "watch

dog" organization for police officers around the country and they handle the daily presence and lobbying efforts for us in Washington. We do have federal legislation that directly affects you and your family as a result of your occupation as a police officer. The ability to carry your gun anywhere in the country is legislation that the Police Protective League has been involved with from the beginning. Although it looks like Senator Kennedy is going to kill the law allowing you to carry your gun in any state, this would not be an issue if we had simply kept our noses in Los Angeles County. Let's talk about Social Security. The Federal Government would love to have you pay into Social Security and not allow you to collect from it because you get a pension. We are currently fighting this battle on your behalf.

But at the heart of this issue is who we endorse and support in political office. You may not personally like many individuals that get our endorsement but they are endorsed in large part because they vote for "bread and butter" issues for you and your family. By our endorsement and support of these people the League gains clout in the political arena and that means we are able to help get money back to Los Angeles and into your pocket, as well as legislation

passed that protects you and your rights as a police officer and an American.

Support Those Who Support You

Another organization that deserves some recognition is the Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union. The credit union is operated under the leadership of a volunteer Board of Directors, headed by its Chairman Hans Klein, and a professional executive team, led by President/CEO Stephen Endaya. The credit union is a financial cooperative whose members are the owners. Based on the credit union principle, "not for profit, but for people," LAPFCU demonstrates its commitment to helping its members attain financial security by providing a full range of financial services to help meet savings, lending and retirement goals. They consistently offer lower interest rates on loans and higher dividend rates on savings products. LAPFCU prides itself on its long history of providing exceptional, individualized, quality service to the men and women of LAPD.

By establishing special youth accounts and a scholarship program, the Credit Union has demonstrated its concern for our children and their future.

But LAPFCU also serves our membership in a host of other ways. LAPFCU has been a long-time supporter of the Protective League's annual golf tournament and a regular advertiser in our *Blue Line*.

They also support our membership indirectly through their active support of many other LAPD related events and LAPD affiliated organizations, both large and small. Each year, LAPFCU supports events hosted by the Memorial Foundation, LAPRAAC, the Parker

Foundation, and the Police Relief Association. They have been a long-time supporter of the Historical Society, in their quest to establish the LAPD museum, and provided the much needed sponsorship for the "100 Years of Photography Exhibit" created by the Office of the Chief.

At the community level, LAPFCU supports many Divisional events each year both financially and by providing promotional gift items, and has recently provided support to the Police Academy program at Monroe High School. You'll find representatives of the credit union at LAPD health fairs, career days, recruit classes, golf tournaments, relays, and other events, ready to talk with members and actively listen to their input.

A recent example of the credit union's responsiveness to member feedback is the steps that are being taken to expedite mortgage loan processing. With mortgage rates at historic lows, loan demand soared dramatically, initially causing the members to suffer delays. To reduce the impact to the membership, credit union staff are working longer hours (including weekends), additional temporary staff have been hired, they've added work stations, and implemented internal procedures to enhance workflow and communications. Most importantly, they are honoring all rates at the time of application, so that delays do not negatively impact the membership.

LAPFCU has consistently shown its commitment to "serving those who serve" and we appreciate the LAPFCU Board of Directors for their generosity and willingness to be an active part of the LAPD family.

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LAPD



OFFICER SAFETY

Luther Lutz

Although it has been some time since I have worked the field, there are some things that never change. For instance, when I worked the field I never met an officer who wanted to work with another officer who did not know/use good tactics. In the old days tactics were always a topic of conversation, whether it was during impromptu meetings held in the parking lots of Winchells, discussions in report writing rooms at the station, or during roll call training. Everyone on the watch knew which officers were tactically sound and which officers needed to improve their tactical skills. Whenever you worked with a new partner, tactics were always a part of the conversation so that both of you would know how the other one was going to react during a tactical situation. You would go over possible scenarios and how they should be handled so that you could react quicker should you be confronted with similar situations.

This has saved the lives of officers and has prevented many officers from becoming injured while handling tactical situations. However, one of the most dangerous aspects of police work, overdriving, is too often tolerated and accepted by too many officers and supervisors. Officers who would never tolerate their partners putting them at

risk by using unsafe tactics seem to turn a blind eye to being put at risk by a partner who is not driving safely. We all know the officers in the division who have a reputation of driving code 2 1/2 all the time. That is not to say that driving code 2 1/2 is not necessary sometimes, but there are inherent risks when this type of overdriving occurs. Far too many officers are becoming injured or killed in traffic accidents because some officers are driving too fast when it is not necessary.

According to the February 2003 edition of the Police Labor Monthly, there were 147 law enforcement officers across the nation killed in the line of duty during 2002, well below the decade-long average of 165 deaths annually. Texas led the nation with 15 fatalities, while California had eight fatalities. Of the 147 officers killed in the line of duty during 2002, 55 were shot to death. However, the leading cause of death for officers killed in the line of duty was traffic accidents, not gunshot wounds. There were 65 officers killed in traffic accidents during 2002, 44 in automobile accidents, 14 struck by automobiles while outside their vehicles, and seven in motorcycle accidents. Which means the number one cause of officers killed in the line of duty is traf-

fic accidents, not officer involved shootings nor other inherently dangerous calls that officers handle on a daily basis. According to the information I received from the Employee Assistance Unit, the Department lost 12 officers in the line of duty during the past 10 years, 5 of which were the result of traffic accidents. I worked Medical Liaison Section for ten years and every month we reported the leading causes of injuries for officers. Without fail, every month the first or second leading cause of injuries was injuries that were sustained in traffic accidents. So, in addition to discussing tactics with your partner, you might want to practice this phrase: "Hey, slow down partner." This phrase, just like good tactics, might also help keep you or your partner from getting injured or killed. We have been very fortunate that we have not lost an officer in the line of duty since September 19, 2000, which, unfortunately, was due to a traffic accident. So, be careful, slow down and be safe.

Anyway, back to League business. Since I used to work at Medical Liaison Section, I have been delegated to handle issues regarding workers' compensation. So if you are having any problems, give me a call. I have been able to resolve some of the issues officers have called me about and other ones I am still trying

to resolve. Another issue several members have called the League about is the restrictions regarding off-duty employment for officers assigned to a 10-hour work schedule. Amendment No. 1 to the current MOU states that officers assigned to a 10-hour or 12-hour shift can not engage in outside employment within 24 hours of beginning their next shift or on a regularly scheduled work day. During discussions with the Department, the Department agreed to not have this apply to officers working a 10-hour work schedule and will be publishing a Notice to reflect the change on this issue.

The League was also able to convince the Department to rescind part of the Notice they published that required officers to turn in all of their police equipment when going on military leave. The Department is in the process of amending the Notice to allow officers who are activated into the military to keep their police identification. The problem with the order was that the officers who were activated into the military could not carry a firearm since they had no police identification to prove they could legally carry a firearm. This was especially a problem for officers stationed locally. If you need anything call me, or any of the League Directors, at (213) 251-4554. ♦

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FIRST RESPONDERS NEED TOOLS TO RESPOND

Peter Repovich



With the threat of war increasing every day, police agencies all across the nation are feeling the strain of not only decreased budgets – due to state/federal budget deficits and increased attention on the war on terror – but also because many officers are being called upon to report to duty as military personnel.

LAPD is not the only police force affected, with approximately 200 officers currently fulfilling military obligations – the commander of the SWAT team for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and the police chief of the Pasadena Police Department are just a few of the other police personnel who will be serving our country in an additional capacity. With more than 168,000 reservists from around the nation on active duty, many cities and counties around the nation are operating at less than full strength.

But what of the officers who stay on the home front, protecting our country's residents from not only terrorist threats, but also the "everyday" threats of street violence? Their responsibilities and the demands placed on their departments continue to grow as our nation gets closer to declaring war.

Unfortunately, these demands come in the form of unfunded mandates for homeland security – basically, the

departments must comply, but they are not given the resources with which to accomplish these goals.

So, when President Bush orders departments to increase training for handling biological warfare, it is oftentimes the departments' responsibility to fund the training and the necessary equipment. And with no protection against "dirty" bombs, no meters to detect these weapons and not even any gas masks, the LAPD unfortunately has not been equipped to serve as the first responder in this type of situation.

Even without the war on terror, we are in a tight spot. The loss of the MTA contract alone may force the LAPD to cut back hiring efforts. Coupled with the state budget crisis that threatens our already limited resources, it is critical that our city leaders find ways to cover the \$28.2 million loss as a result of the MTA's decision to award its contract to the Sheriff's Department.

Based on last month's election results, where the voters clearly expressed their desire to keep public safety as the number one priority, many people feel that the City Council has a mandate to preserve state and federal funding.

Our state is in a budget crisis. The deficit is estimated at as much as \$35 billion. While the Republicans and

Democrats squabble over the best solution to this growing problem, cities and police agencies such as ours suffer from – in the best case – uncertain funding or, in many cases, decreased funding. Last month, Santa Clara County Sheriff Laurie Smith announced the harshest cutbacks in 20 years, recommending the layoffs of 81 of the department's 550 deputies and doing away with such key programs as tracking of sexual predators and investigating terrorism and domestic violence. According to *Newsweek* magazine, budget woes across the country are forcing states to pull cops off the street.

As the state's first line of defense against terrorism and domestic crimes, we cannot play around with the funding of our law enforcement organizations. If nothing else is guaranteed, the protection of the residents of our cities and state should be.

It is estimated that the City of Los Angeles will lose nearly \$300 million in state revenue over the next 18 months – this has prompted city officials to consider hiring freezes for the LAPD and Los Angeles City Fire Department, and layoffs for many other city employees.

Now is not the time to cut back on public safety funding, with Los Angeles carrying the unwelcome title of murder capital of the nation. Gang-related crime is up, yet our staffing numbers and resources continue to suffer. We have asked our law enforcement colleagues and the members of our community to send the strong message to our city and state leaders that the ample funding of our police departments is a necessity.

As part of the solution to the unfortunate effect the budget crisis threatens to

have on public safety funding, the LAPPL has been advocating the restoration of the Vehicle License Fees (VLF) to pre-1998 levels. Of the funds generated by the VLF, approximately 60 percent goes directly to local police and fire services.

In previous years, when the state budget experienced a surplus, the state reduced fees, such as the VLF. However, this reduction was conditional on the state having sufficient monies in the General Fund to "backfill" funds to cities and counties for such items as safety services. Now that the state is facing drastic cuts in local budgets, it may be the time to consider raising the VLF – a typical increase for car owners of about \$9 per month.

Governor Gray Davis has publicly stated that public safety is one of the areas in which funding must be preserved – we must focus our attention on preventing more crimes and suffering by providing adequate funding for safety services. This same message must be sent to President Bush and our federal legislators, who have pinpointed LAPD and other large police forces as first responders in crisis situations. Our cities are suffering under the strain of tightened budgets, and are doing what they can to support military reservists who have been called to active duty (by subsidizing salaries and benefits), while also funding the mandates for homeland security. We will proudly do what we can to protect and serve all against terrorist threats – we just need the tools and resources to get the job done.

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POSITIVE CHANGES

Cliff Ruff

The good news is that Chief Bratton is modifying the disciplinary system to bring back common sense and effectiveness. Under Chief Parks' "scorched earth policy," police officers were inhibited from doing their jobs because a frivolous complaint could take a year or more to adjudicate and, therefore, stop transfers and promotions. While Chief Gates invented Operation Hammer, Chief Parks invented Operation Hammer the Cops. Chief Bratton has made a video for roll calls, articulating a positive change in the reform of discipline.

He's doing away with the "gotcha" syndrome. Going is the mindset of "If I can't getcha for one thing, I'll getcha for something else."

The Chief has promised to expedite the processing of complaints and to focus on the adjudication of sustained complaints to be analyzed by the officer's intent. The Chief has promised to support officers who make good faith decisions in the performance of their duties. Training will be a cure as opposed to days off.

If you break the rules and regulations

of the Department, you will be held accountable. Unlike the past, no one is going to be standing over you with a microscope, stalking you, ready to pounce on you for the smallest infraction. Integrity stings will still be part of the process, as mandated by the Consent Decree, but they will be for integrity issues, not to see if you are using Leather Luster.

When an officer violates the rules and the complaint is sustained, the penalty assessed will be judged by the officer's intent. If the rules are intentionally violated the penalties will be higher. Prior sustained complaints will also factor into the penalty assessment. As one scenario was offered to the League: an officer who happened to nod off because he was in court all day will have his penalty mitigated. The officer who brings a pillow to work and pulls into someone's garage to sleep will have the book thrown at him.

Lastly, if you are corrupt, you can expect to be prosecuted and jailed. There will be no mercy for a dishonest cop, and rightfully so.

Chief Bratton has made a commitment to support you for doing your job. He wants crime reduced and productivity increased. If we can collectively assist Chief Bratton in making Los Angeles a safer city, we can use his model in the future to ensure another Bernard Parks' system doesn't happen to LAPD.

Chief Bratton has promised to expedite the investigation of complaints so there is a nexus between when the act occurred and when the penalty is given. Justice delayed is justice denied.

The Chief is also considering bringing in an outsider, Michael Berkow, the current

Irvine Chief of Police, to be in charge of Internal Affairs Group. A technical dispute is ongoing on whether he will be sworn or civilian. Our research shows he came from the rank and file in Rochester, New York, federal service in Haiti and Somalia, the Chief at Coachella, South Pasadena and Irvine. The officers in Irvine say good things about him. His reputation is that he is not tolerant of lazy officers or supervisors. We'll soon see if he comes on board. Chief Berkow may bring a positive force from the outside and help remove the negative aura of our past and current disciplinary system.

We have a chance to turn the corner and elevate ourselves above the Rafael Perez-Bernard Parks depression. We need to positively show the public that we are still number one and dispel the irresponsible images portrayed in the TV show called "The Shield," which was originally named "Rampart." Images from "Training Day" and "Dark Blue" don't help us. Professional caring service can overcome those images.

Chief Bratton will support you. He is asking you to aggressively enforce the law, quickly and fairly. I support him. We have a chance to turn the corner. The Chief is learning that this is not New York, and you can't do things in Los Angeles like they do in New York. Together we can make a difference.

Be careful out there. Do your job to the best of your abilities. Be proactive and legal. God bless our troops in the Middle East and bring them home safely.

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A FICO score is a credit score developed by Fair, Isaac & Co. Credit scoring is a method of determining the likelihood that credit users will pay their bills. Fair, Isaac began its pioneering work with credit scoring in the late 1950's, and since then, scoring has become widely accepted by lenders as a reliable means of credit history into a single number. Fair, Isaac & Co. and the credit bureaus do not reveal how these scores are computed. The Federal Trade Commission has ruled this to be acceptable. Credit scores are calculated by using scoring models and mathematical tables that assign points for different pieces of information which best predict future credit performance.

Developing these models involves studying how thousands, even millions, of people have used credit. Score-model developers find predictive factors in the data that have proven to indicate future credit performance. Models can be developed from different sources of data. Credit-bureau models are developed from information in consumer credit-bureau reports.

Credit scores analyze a borrower's credit history considering numerous factors such as:

- Late payments
- The amount of time credit has been established
- The amount of credit used versus the amount of credit available
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There are really three FICO scores computed by data provided by each of the three bureaus, Experian, Trans Union and Equifax. Some lenders use one of these three scores, while other lenders may use the middle score.

HOW CAN I INCREASE MY SCORE?

While it is difficult to increase your score over the short run, here are some tips to increase your score over a period of time.

- Pay your bills on time. Late payments and collections can have a serious impact on your score.
- Do not apply for credit frequently. Having a large number of inquiries on your credit report can worsen your score.
- Reduce your credit-card balances. If you are "maxed" out on your credit cards, this will affect your credit score negatively.
- If you have limited credit, obtain additional credit. Not having sufficient credit can negatively impact your score.

I have a great website that will give you lots of information and insight to your FICO scores. The website is www.myfico.com. Please let me know your thoughts and suggestions.

Thank you for your trust and confidence in the LAPRAAC Real Estate Services and each month I hope to give you more insight and knowledge to help fulfill your dreams and goals in the real estate market.

About the author:
Tiffini R. Hughes specializes in law enforcement real estate services and loan programs. She can be reached at (323) 222-2627 or emailed at tiffini@tiffinihughes.com. The LAPRAAC Real Estate Services Program was developed in 2001 and has since allowed LAPRAAC members discounts and rebates.

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LET'S ROLL

Paul Weber

Personnel Complaint Interview:

Last month I wrote an article that served as an overview of the LAPD complaint system and it included a "simple" flow chart. This month I want to cover the initial personnel complaint interview. I used several reference tools including the Department manual / orders, Michael P. Stone training bulletins¹, and the assistance of our legal department.

The rights you have as a California peace officer were established after years of effort by many who wanted to see that law enforcement officers in this State would be free from abusive, arbitrary and unfair treatment by overzealous or politically motivated officials in internal discipline matters. You will not benefit from these protections unless you exercise the rights provided for you. Many of the rights in the Bill of Rights Act, which the League sponsored, pertain to interrogations, which could lead to punitive action. Anytime you find yourself in this predicament, immediately demand to consult with a knowledgeable representative, before you answer any questions. Always take the time to contact your delegate, the League or legal counsel for assistance and information. You owe it to yourself.

Let's all be clear on one point: *any* internal affairs interrogation is an *adversary* procedure. Some of you are uncomfortable with the characterization of the process as *adversary* or *adversarial*. They say this approach unnecessarily injects elements of hostility and distrust into the relationship of supervisor or investigator to subordinate or subject. I don't believe so. We rightly expect supervisors and investigators to treat members who are under investigation with respect and courtesy, and otherwise to act civilly and professionally, with all the dignity that the process deserves, just as we expect the members to be respectful of the process and of the investigators, and responsive, truthful and cooperative. However, the dynamics of the interrogation process make it naturally adversarial, even when everyone acts as we expect them to. Among those facets that tend naturally to cast the players in the roles of adversaries are the *compelled* or *compulsory* nature of the interrogation procedure, the rule of *insubordination*, the strict administrative liability for *perceived untruthfulness*, and the plain fact that any *admissions* of misconduct will inevitably lead to some form of official censure, perhaps removal.

Internal affairs interrogators are conducting an investigation which is

designed to determine what acts or omissions occurred, and whether that conduct deserves discipline, or in some cases, criminal prosecution consideration.

Preparation

Before going into an interview, you should have a basic working knowledge of the provisions of the applicable Memorandum of Understanding, the Department Manual, the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act, and an understanding of basic constitutional protections afforded the officer under investigation.

Do not try to predict the course of the interrogation nor the scope of the investigation. Obtain the aid of a competent representative or lawyer in advance.

You need a competent representative who understands all of the above and their role in the interview. Don't select your partner or your best friend because they are your partner or best friend. The actions your representative undertakes in their official capacity may well prevent error or injustice occasioned by an investigator's overzealous conduct, good faith mistake, or an unfavorable bias toward the accused.

The Supreme Court defined the role of an employee representative in an investigatory interview as follows:

"A single employee confronted by an employer investigating whether certain conduct deserves discipline may be too fearful or inarticulate to relate accurately the incident being investigated, or too ignorant to raise extenuating factors. A knowledgeable union representative could assist the employee by eliciting favorable facts, and save the employer production time by getting to the bottom

of the incident occasioning the interview." *Civil Service Association, Local 400 v. City and County of San Francisco* (1978) 22 Cal.3d 22, 567, 150 Cal.Rptr. 129, 138 (quoting *NLRB v. J. Wein-garten*, 420 U.S. 251).

A. Our MOU section 10.3 outlines duties of an employee representative:

Conduct pre-interview consultation

B. During the interview: Consultation, advice, clarification, ensuring proper procedures are followed and ensuring the officer's rights are not violated.

Always meet prior to the interview with your representative to discuss it. Review any relevant material prior to the interview. For example, if the incident involves a pursuit, review the Department pursuit policy, your arrest reports and any other related reports etc... This preparation is just as important as preparing for court testimony because some day you may very well have to testify at a Board of Rights hearing and/or a court hearing on this matter.

Tell The Truth!

You can and most likely will survive administratively any incident you are involved in if you tell the truth. An effort to make yourself appear to be less culpable can result in your termination not just from LAPD but also from law enforcement.

You need to understand that any statement you make will likely be tested against the statements of others or evidence developed by investigators, and

continued on page 16

¹ Mr. Stone is the former general counsel for the League and is on our panel of attorneys. He is in private practice exclusively representing law enforcement. He is one of the most experienced and talented attorneys in this complicated area of the law.

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A MESSAGE FROM GENERAL COUNSEL

by Hank Hernandez, Attorney at Law



Update on Contract Negotiations

I have been requested by our President Bob Baker to participate in the League's negotiating team for a successor contract, which is scheduled for an effective date of July 1, 2003. It appears at this time that these negotiations will be tough because of the crisis in Sacramento with the budget deficit.

Unlike the federal government, state and local governments are not permitted to run budget deficits. As a result, the current financial crisis facing the state legislators and Governor Davis is forcing our local City Council and Mayor Hahn to make some hard choices. In fact talks about hiring freezes, layoffs, and mandatory furloughs are being heard in some offices at City Hall. Of course, the state's budget process for the coming fiscal year is far from a done deal. But, it is clear from the massive size of the deficit that the task for your League's negotiators will not be an easy one.

One component of Governor Davis' budgetary proposal that sticks in our craw is his plan to keep in the state coffers about \$2.9 billion from vehicle licensing fees, instead of sending it to the cities and counties where it belongs. Because of this, the economic downturn may hit the City of Los Angeles like a ton of bricks. Mayor Hahn recently announced that under the governor's budget proposal, the City could lose up to \$245 million over the next few years.

Notwithstanding these bleak reactions and predictions, your League's negotiating team will be hard at work to ensure that your role as first responders of the city's public safety team will be properly recognized in the upcoming City's budget priorities.

Court of Appeals Upholds Right of Officers to Dispute Claims About Money

In another legal victory for the League and one of its members, the Court of Appeal for the Second Appellate District recently affirmed the judgment of the Superior Court which set aside a 22-day suspension imposed on a female detective for an alleged failure to meet her financial obligations. *Sonia Cabrera vs. City of Los Angeles*, Case NO. B152515 (Sup.Ct. No. BS063752). The City filed this appeal, but lost.

From August of 1995 to December of 1997 or January of 1998, Detective Cabrera was Betty Hancock's tenant. In March

of 1999, Ms. Hancock wrote to the Los Angeles Police Department ("Department"), complaining that Detective Cabrera owed her money for utilities and rent. Ms. Hancock wrote "if you cannot trust the police department, whom can you trust?" and that "Your help in settling this account with Ms. Cabrera will be appreciated, for if you cannot help, I shall have to go to Small Claims Court, where I will surely get a judgment against her."

The Department investigated, and ultimately filed an accusation. The charge, as read to Detective Cabrera at the Board of Rights hearing, was that between January and December 1997, she failed to meet her financial obligations, as required.

Detective Cabrera moved to dismiss, citing Government Code section 3308, part of the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights. The Board denied the motion and the hearing proceeded. Detective Cabrera was found guilty. Specifically, the Board found that Detective Cabrera had violated two sections of the Department's Manual, one which addresses financial responsibility, and one which is part of the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics. The Board also found that Detective Cabrera's "actions and apparent financial distress clearly brought discredit upon the Department as well as yourself."

Neither section of the manual was submitted to the Court, but both were read to Detective Cabrera during the Board of Rights. The first section states that: "Public employees have stable income upon which they may forecast future earnings. For this reason, and because of public confidence in their responsibility, it is relatively easy for Department employees to contract financial obligations, which, if not controlled, may become an impossible burden. Such financial distress may impair the individual's effectiveness and tends to bring discredit upon the Department. Employees should avoid incurring financial obligations which are beyond their ability to reasonably satisfy from their anticipated Department earnings."

The second reads: "I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, and I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and regulations of any Department."

The League retained the services of panel attorney Jim Trott who filed a petition for writ of mandate on behalf of Detective Cabrera contending both that the Department had unlawfully required

her to disclose her confidential financial information in violation of Government Code section 3308 and that the Board's findings were not supported by the evidence.

The trial court, presided by Judge David Yaffe, found that no evidence in the record supported the Board's finding that Detective Cabrera's failure to pay the amounts claimed by Ms. Hancock brought discredit on the Department, and that "[a]n independent review of the administrative record shows that the weight of the evidence produced at the administrative hearing did not show that [Detective Cabrera] failed to obey any law of the land, any regulation of the department, or committed any act of dishonesty in thought or deed."

The court also found that the Board had acted in excess of its jurisdiction and failed to proceed within the manner required by law in that Government Code section 3308 precluded the Department from disciplining a police officer for failure to pay her personal debts unless one of the three listed exceptions applied, and that none of the exceptions was either charged or proved.

The court granted the petition and ordered the Board to set aside its decision in the administrative proceedings, then remanded the matter for further proceedings. Instead of complying with the court's judgment, the City appealed, which it normally does when an officer prevails in disputes against the Police Department.

According to the Court of Appeal, this was not, as the City's brief would have it, the story of a bullying police officer who took advantage of a helpless, captive, elderly landlady. Instead, it was the story of two people who lived in the same house and shared many expenses and, as is not unusual, disagreed about some of those expenses.

As the trial court found, there was no evidence whatsoever that Detective Cabrera violated any law of the land. There was no evidence that she trespassed, stole, made threats, or committed any other unlawful act.

The Court of Appeal also disagreed with the Board of Rights' finding that Detective Cabrera violated sections of the manual that "Employees should avoid incurring financial obligations which are beyond their ability to reasonably satisfy . . ." should keep their private lives "unsullied as an example to all," should be "honest in thought and deed" and "exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and regulations of any Department." The Court did not disagree with the trial court's conclusion that the weight of the evidence was that Detective Cabrera did nothing which could be construed as a violation of any of those provisions. She contracted to pay rent, and did so. She borrowed money, but she repaid it. Only a small amount was in dispute, and the evidence was that it was just that, a dispute, with evidence on both sides. The Court also stated that even a

Board ruling that in fact it was Detective Cabrera who owed money, and Ms. Hancock who was owed money, did not turn this disagreement into anything that established that Detective Cabrera sullied her private life, or was dishonest in thought and deed, or failed to attempt to avoid incurring financial obligations she could not satisfy.

The evidence before the Board of Rights and the courts clearly showed that Detective Cabrera and Ms. Hancock had a personal relationship by virtue of the fact that they shared a house. It was not ultimately a happy relationship, and part of that unhappiness involved disagreements about money. Detective Cabrera's employment had some effect on the relationship -- for instance, Ms. Hancock testified that she did not feel the need for a written rental agreement because she trusted police officers. However, Ms. Hancock never testified that she agreed to make the loans, refrained from filing a small claims action, or in fact did anything else out of fear of Detective Cabrera or the Police Department. She never testified that she felt intimidated or was bullied, only that she found arguments unpleasant. When asked why she did not simply evict Detective Cabrera, Ms. Hancock did not testify that Detective Cabrera's employment or the power of her status as a police officer had influenced her decision, only that she felt sorry for Detective Cabrera. There was no evidence that Ms. Hancock held the Department in disrepute. Instead, she turned to the Department for assistance. Even then, she did not complain about Detective Cabrera's conduct, but merely sought help in collecting a debt.

In conclusion, the Court of Appeal found that "[I]t is true that the public expects peace officers to be above suspicion of violation of the very laws [they are] sworn . . . to enforce," and that "[h]istorically, peace officers have been held to a higher standard than other public employees, in part because they alone are the 'guardians of peace and security of the community, and the efficiency of our whole system designed for the purpose of maintaining law and order, depends upon the extent to which such officers perform their duties and are faithful to the trust reposed in them." (*Pasadena Police Officers Assn. v. City of Pasadena* (1990) 51 Cal.3d 564, 571-572.) "However, it is not always possible for individuals, no matter how honest or unsullied or careful with expenditures, to avoid having any financial disputes whatsoever. The (Department) manual cannot reasonably be read to mean that police officers may never become caught up in such disputes, or to forbid a police officer from disputing a claim about money."

Our congratulations to Detective Cabrera for her perseverance and to her attorney Jim Trott for this outstanding result.

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WARNING BELLS

by Gary Ingemunson, Attorney at Law

"Never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee"

-John Donne

Representation, Representation, Representation

It is still happening out there on a daily basis. Officers are going into interviews with no representation because they think there is "no big deal" and that they did nothing wrong. Well, they did at least one thing wrong. They failed to recognize the potential impact of ANY interview on their careers. Nowhere is this more important than in the field of the use of force investigations. And nowhere are officers less likely to demand representation than in use of force investigations. Especially those officers who consider themselves to be only witnesses.

Let me relate to you what can happen by describing three situations that have actually occurred in one form or another. They are illustrative of many cases out there. Whenever you hear any of the following phrases from an investigator or a supervisor, you should hear *warning bells*.

"What Happened Out There?"

It is three o'clock in the morning and you have been home asleep for less than an hour. You just got off watch. It was an exciting night filled with foot pursuits and good arrests. The phone rings. Groggily, you reach over and mumble a hello. It is the watch commander.

"Hey, Smith," he says, "IA is all over the station asking questions about that foot pursuit you were involved in tonight. What happened out there?"

Nothing happened, as far as you are concerned, but a good arrest and a suspect taken into custody by another unit. You were on the tail end of the chase. Without thinking, you give the watch commander a run down of what you understood to have happened. Your head isn't even yet clear from being woken up after just getting to sleep. The watch commander seems satisfied and you go back to bed.

You are later interviewed about the incident by Internal Affairs. You have representation. You have reviewed your log. You have thought carefully about the incident and what you actually know versus what you think you know. The interview goes smoothly. You feel just fine about the interview.

Then a month later, you are shocked to find that the Department is charging you with false and misleading statements. They say your interview to Internal Affairs doesn't match with what the watch commander thought you said during his conversation with you at three in the morning. The untaped, hurried, groggy conversation with the watch commander is being used to send you to a Board of Rights for probable termination. The arrest and foot pursuit turned out to be in policy. However, that is irrelevant to the Department's allegations that you made a false statement to the watch commander. It will be your word against his. You are a P-2 and he is a lieutenant. Want to bet who is going to win?

"I just have a couple more questions."

It was only a dog shooting. Bowser threatened you and you shot him. You were astounded at the level of investigation that goes into this type of incident. Investigators responded from home during the wee hours of the morning, yellow tape was strung all over the place, photographers took photos of Bowser and the scene, and the League even sent an attorney to represent you in the interview. The overtime alone expended by the Department investigation would have bought twenty replacement Bowsers for the grieved owner, and maybe even a leash so Bowser doesn't need to be shot next time.

You go through the interview, well represented, but tired and amazed at the detail of the questions. "Which way did you turn?" "After you fired the first shot, what did you see?" "Was your finger on the trigger or along the frame?" "What shooting position did you hold your gun in?" And on and on.

Several months later, you get a phone call from the same investigator that had responded to the scene and conducted the interview. The investigator says that there are only a "couple" of clarifying questions that need to be asked to finish the investigation. You believe you have nothing to fear so you cooperate. A second taped interview is conducted over the phone. You have no representation. You have not listened to your previous interview to refresh your memory. You may have just ended your career.

A few months later, you are charged with false and misleading statements to the investigator. The Department has determined from your second interview that there are conflicts. You are directed to a Board of Rights.

"The tape of your first interview has been lost (damaged, destroyed), I need to interview you again."

You were just a witness to a use of force that appeared to be proper to you, so when the investigator wanted to interview you, you said "no problem." You didn't need a representative. Hell, this was just one cop wanting to know from another cop what happened. You are interviewed on tape and do your best to describe exactly what you saw.

A few days later, the same investigator phones you and tells you that the tape of the first interview was lost. Another interview is needed. You haven't thought much about the incident since then, but, hey, accidents happen. Anybody can lose a tape. "Sure, fire away," you say. The investigator goes through the incident again, this time the questions are a little different. No big deal.

The big deal becomes apparent a couple of months later. You are notified that the first tape was found. "Good," you say. "Not exactly," you are told. "Some of your answers appear to be different."

You are charged with false and misleading statements. You are removed from your assignment while the investigation is conducted. After all, how can you testify in court with a false and misleading allegation hanging over your

head. The defense attorneys will eat you alive. Eight months later, the allegation is unfounded. For eight months, other people have been doing your job and you have been simmering on the back burner. What a waste of assets.

The Answer?

Representation, Representation, Representation.

All of the above situations could have had happy endings had a trained League representative been involved.

In the first situation, when that phone rang at three in the morning, this is what should have happened. "What happened out there?" The watch commander said.

"With IA all over the station, I'm sure they will be wanting to interview me, sir. I'll get a rep, review my logs and answer all their questions as accurately as I can. Right now, I can't even think straight."

RESULT: the officer will not have said anything carelessly and the watch commander has nothing to misinterpret. The Department will get an accurate statement at the appropriate time. No Board of Rights.

In the second situation, the officer should have responded to the "just a few clarifying questions" request from the investigator like this.

"Have you contacted the attorney that represented me in the previous interview to find out what his schedule is?"

RESULT: the attorney would have made sure that you reviewed your previous statement and any other evidence you had available to make sure that the passage of time had not impacted your memory. You would have been prepared. You would have truly been clarifying something that you had previously said, not talking off the top of your head. No Board of Rights.

In the third situation, the mistake of not having a representative in the first interview was of paramount importance. Any competent representative would have tape recorded the interview him, or herself. You would have had your copy of the tape of the interview. You would have answered the request for the re-interview because of the lost tape like this.

"Not necessary. I'll make you a copy of my tape." End of story. No second tape to be misinterpreted. No absence from your assignment for eight months while the Department conducts an investigation. No Brady issue hanging over your head.

The bottom line is that, from a legal viewpoint, no one has to tell you that you are entitled to representation, or even advise you that you are entitled to listen to your previous interview before being interviewed again. But then, there are probably a lot of things that you don't know about personnel interviews.

This can be largely corrected by knowing only one thing. That you need a representative. The representative will know the other things that you need to know, or the representative will know to call the League and speak to an attorney, if there is any question.

Whenever you are contacted by an investigator who is silent about representation or who is attempting to circumvent the representation process, you should hear *warning bells*. Why would an experienced watch commander call an officer at three in the morning to ask questions about a situation when he knows there are going to be Internal Affairs interviews? Why would an investigator who knows that an officer is represented by an attorney, call the officer and request an interview outside the attorney's presence? Why would a tape disappear and then be found again shortly after the re-interview?

There may well be innocent reasons for all of the above, but that doesn't mean you should assume so. It may be ignorance. It may be a casual disregard of the rights of others. It may be ordered from higher up. It may be pressure to get the case handed in. It may be just a bad day for the investigator. It doesn't matter. The result is the same.

Department policy encourages investigators to honor the need for representation.

"With the exception of the usual provisions under Miranda in criminal investigations, you are not obligated to inform officers of their right to a representative. However, in the interest of saving yourself time and appearing fair, it's a good practice to remind officers that they are entitled to a representative when you call them to make the interview appointment; this is especially true for new officers who might not know of their right to representation. Never tell an officer that he/she doesn't need a representative, or that he/she doesn't have a right to a representative." [Complaint Investigations: A Guide for Supervisors, page 32, emphasis added]

If everyone is playing fair and above the table, representation is normally part and parcel of the process and the investigators do not try and get around it. In fact, a knowledgeable representative is often an asset to the proper completion of the investigation.

Certainly, if you have done nothing wrong, do not spoil that record by making the first mistake of the day, failing to assert your right to representation. Contrary to rumor, the Officer Representation Section is still up and running. Call 213-485-9516 and contact a trained and experienced representative. Also, join the Enhanced Legal Plan and involve an attorney too!

Be legally careful out there.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters To The Editor is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. **Letters must be limited to 350 words or less.** Letters over the limit will be returned to the writer for editing. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

Los Angeles Police Protective League
1308 West Eighth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear League Board Members:

We can never thank you enough! On behalf of the Fight for Life Boxing Committee, we would like to express our deep gratitude for your recent donation of \$2,000 for the "Fight for Life" boxing event which helps raise funds to support the research and patient care at City of Hope National Medical Center.

Through your generous support, City of Hope is able to continue to provide high quality medical care and hope to those suffering from cancer and other life-threatening diseases.

Your kindness means so much to us as committee members because it helps to make this night of bringing the Los Angeles Police Department together with counterparts from other Police Departments in a common goal of helping to support others in need of comfort and healing. Your generosity truly touches others' lives.

Thank you again for sharing; it will make a difference.

Sincerely,
Officer Diane Alonso
Fight for Life Committee Member
Officer George Lopez (Retired)
Fight for Life Founder

Hello. I am interested in corresponding with an officer of the Los Angeles Police Department. My full name is David Bridge of 11 Station Road, St. Blazey, Cornwall, England, PL24 - 2NF, PC 820C, D. Bridge.

Subject: Hello from Germany

Hello! My name is Mario. I'm 29 years old. I'm a police officer from Germany/Saxony. On this way I search an American officer who is interested in a contact/corresponding with a German officer. I hope you can help me to find a Los Angeles Police Officer. My address is: HYPERONKARO@aol.com. In the hope of getting an answer.

Mario

Subject: Just to say hi

I'm an officer in Miami, Florida, and seeing all these problems in the world I believe the law enforcement family needs to be closer than ever. I'm trying to get different police departments together and meet new people. If this interests you, please get back to me. Contact number: (305) 471-1722.

I retired in 1991 and moved out of California. Just a note of encouragement to keep up the good work and keep the information coming. You are the only link to our Department after retirement.

Robert Clark

END OF WATCH



NAME: Gordon McDevitt #6686

RANK: Investigator III

ASSIGNED TO: Frauds

BORN: February 14, 1928

APPT: June 1, 1950

RETIRED: June 18, 1978

DIED: February 9, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: Michael G. Partain #21042

RANK: Police Officer III

ASSIGNED TO: Human Resources

Bureau

BORN: July 6, 1952

APPT: September 3, 1974

RETIRED: January 15, 2000

DIED: February 26, 2003

NAME: William P. Regan #1681

RANK: Sergeant

ASSIGNED TO: Bunco Forgery

BORN: November 11, 1914

APPT: March 30, 1937

RETIRED: March 31, 1962

DIED: February 26, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: William A. Scheideker #17576

RANK: Sergeant I

ASSIGNED TO: Wilshire/ORS

BORN: February 12, 1949

APPT: May 15, 1972

RETIRED: August 30, 1998

DIED: February 28, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: Robert E. Swensson #5973

RANK: Captain III

ASSIGNED TO: Venice

BORN: February 11, 1920

APPT: November 1, 1948

RETIRED: September 26, 1979

DIED: March 3, 2003

Discipline Reforms Will Speed Justice

by Chief William Bratton



Every police department has to maintain discipline. We expect officers to enforce the law and we have to be able to control and correct the cops who step over the line - in matters large and small.

But our Disciplinary System — which treated every small matter as a federal case — has been self-defeating. The Department has tied itself in knots trying to enforce the letter of its own laws. Cases have taken forever to investigate and adjudicate, and officers have spent months with their cases pending. The system has been seen as an elaborate game of "Gotcha!" that holds police careers hostage to pending and unsubstantiated complaints, some of which are completely without merit.

On February 25th, the Police Commission approved reforms to the Disciplinary System that represent an important step toward bringing the game of "Gotcha!" to an end. I would like to thank Commissioner Rose Ochi, her fellow commissioners, and Mayor James Hahn for initiating this critically needed reform.

We have looked for ways to speed up the system and provide more authority to Area Captains to swiftly resolve the less serious cases. There's an old adage that "justice delayed is justice denied." I think it applies doubly to police officers, most of whom would rather be disciplined swiftly when they are in the wrong, than be left hanging while the process grinds on and on.

The new system makes the essential distinction between disciplinary and non-disciplinary complaints and calls on the Area Captain to channel complaints accordingly. Of the approximately 6,000 complaints the Department receives each year, at least 2,000 — even if valid — would result in no disciplinary action at all. Under the new system these complaints are adjudicated by the Captain and closed out at the Bureau level without additional review by Internal Affairs. The Bureaus can only overrule the Captains for clear and articulated reasons. We think this policy will do a lot to cut down on the endless paper chase that has typified the Disciplinary System in the past. Internal Affairs is already handling the true disciplinary cases three times faster than they were a few years ago, dispensing with the frivolous cases more rapidly and focusing in on the few real offenders in our midst.

The new policy also introduces the option of Alternative Conflict Resolution. Minor discipline cases can now be resolved in mediation sessions with the officer and complainant, with the emphasis being problem-solving, not fault finding. The mediation process often results in a more reasonable and measured outcome than an adversarial proceeding.

Lastly, the new policy and the TEAMS system will not reflect any unfounded and non-sustained dispositions. Only sustained and guilty findings will appear on TEAMS reports for promotions, pay grade increases, transfers, and performance reviews. The Consent Decree requires the Department to maintain records of all non-sustained complaints, but it does not require that these records be used against you. And they won't. This is my promise to the men and women of the LAPD.

I have made it clear that we won't tolerate corruption, brutality, or serious misconduct. If you are guilty of those offenses, we'll throw the book at you. We cannot let the Rampart-type actions of the few ruin the reputation of more than 9,000 honest, hard-working cops.

But let me make it equally clear that the game of "Gotcha!" in this Department is coming to an end. If you are in the right, we will back you up — the benefit of the doubt goes to you. If you are wrong, we will retrain you. If you are corrupt, we will jail you.

A well-intended Disciplinary System all but brought this Department to a standstill. That's not what you want. That's not what I want. And it's certainly not what the public wants.

I know where you want to be — out on the streets again protecting and serving the people of our city, making it the safest large city in America. Don't let the past history of a flawed Disciplinary System keep you from doing the job you signed up to do. And I know you can do it — legally, professionally and safely with a common-sense set of tactical guidelines and reviews.

Next, I am initiating a full examination of the review boards to make certain we are supporting and standing behind good cops trying their best to do their jobs, while still upholding the constitution and laws of our state and nation. We will then present to the Police Commission any additional recommendations for change we find are necessary.

It's a new ball game in the LAPD. The rules and reviews are getting straightened out. It's a game we can all win — you the police officers, our whole Department, and the people of Los Angeles.

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Deputy George Betor

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Baker continued from page 3

us to be responsible for homeland security, we need their support. The federal government's approach to homeland security is like sending our military into Iraq without arming them with weapons

— it just won't work. We are concerned that the LAPD is not equipped to deal with biological or chemical attacks. While police departments in other areas of the country stand ready for these types of assaults, our officers at home lack the protective gear, monitors and other tools necessary to diffuse these

threats.

Although we all know this will be a difficult year, between new reforms at the Dyepartment, the budget difficulties and the pressures placed on us because of war, we want to reassure you that the League is working to protect your rights and empower you to do your job well.

Whether through contract negotiations, lobbying for more law enforcement funding or simply listening to your concerns, we are working hard to make sure the LAPD rank and file is able to protect our city effectively and is rewarded appropriately in return.

Grasso continued from page 4

cealed carry to qualified active and retired law enforcement officers. The bill is supported by nearly every national organization made up of rank-and-file law enforcement officers.

This life saving legislation introduced by Rep. Duke Cunningham (R-CA) will allow qualified active and retired law enforcement officers to carry concealed firearms in all 50 states. The bill provides much needed protection for law enforcement officers and their families. At the same time, the legislation makes our communities safer by empowering our law enforcement officers with the tools they need to save lives.

The Facts about H.R. 218

H.R. 218 guarantees that active and retired law enforcement officers will be able to carry their firearms in all jurisdictions. With the exemption of qualified active and retired law enforcement officers from state laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed firearms,

H.R. 218 gives off-duty police offi-

cers the means to prevent crime in our communities anywhere in the United States. H.R. 218 puts thousands of additional equipped, trained and certified law enforcement officers on the streets at no additional cost to taxpayers. H.R. 218 provides officer the means to defend themselves and their families from the hardened, often vengeful, criminals they have previously arrested. H.R. 218 provides clear, uniform nationwide rules to replace the variety of local laws that create confusion and uncertainty as to whether an officer may or may not carry a firearm when he or she is off-duty.

This bill will help stop and deter crime throughout the country. U.S. Justice Department surveys showed 57 percent of convicts were "more worried about their victims being armed than being caught by the police" and 40 percent said they "decided at least once not to commit a crime because a victim might be armed." This is common sense legislation. H.R. 218 recognizes that a majority of states (33) have some type of Right to Carry legislation, and that offi-

cers and citizens have a right to defend themselves, even away from their home state.

I urge you to send a letter today in support of H.R. 218 to your Congressional representative and Senators Feinstein and Boxer. Urge them to cosponsor and vote for this lifesaving legislation.

Senator Dianne Feinstein
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-3841

Senator Barbara Boxer
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-3553

Military Reserve call-ups thin public safety ranks

The tensions in the Middle East and North Korea have prompted the largest U.S. military mobilization in more than a decade. As the Pentagon's active duty roster has swelled to more than 168,000 reservists from around the nation, police departments around the country are beginning to feel the effects of the call-up on their ranks.

As many of you have noticed, many of our colleagues, both sworn and civilian, have been called up for military duty in recent months, either to help with homeland security or to face possible combat in Afghanistan and the Persian Gulf.

While the LAPD is finding ways to fill the gaps, no one could deny that the call-ups have created additional burdens at a time when our Department is straining to meet new needs. The LAPD has several hundred employees in the National Guard or military reserves. So far, about 200 have been called up. While the LAPD can handle that number of vacancies, the loss of key personnel can hurt.

Recognizing that military reservists are serving a greater good, the City of Los Angeles has a policy of making up the difference between reservists' military pay and their civilian salaries, which are higher. We appreciate the support the City is offering to the men and women of Los Angeles who are serving our country.

Weber continued from page 11

that additional charges will result if your statement is determined to be false or misleading.

The Public Safety Officers' Procedural Bill of Rights Act / Rules of Engagement

Government Code Section '3303 specifies the minimal protections, which must be afforded you when you are subjected to an administrative interrogation. The Public Safety Officers' Procedural Bill of Rights Act (Sections 3300-3311) is your primary source of statutory legal protection. Remember that the protections apply whenever you are subjected

to interrogation, which could lead to punitive action.

Punitive action means any action that may lead to dismissal, demotion, suspension, reduction in salary, written reprimand, or transfer for purposes of punishment.

If you still use the term "witness officer" remove it from your vocabulary. This person does not exist on the Department. If you witness misconduct, fail to stop it and report it "in a timely manner" you are guilty of serious misconduct. Many an officer went in a "witness" and came out the accused!

The interrogation shall be conducted at a reasonable hour, preferably at a time when the officer is on duty, or during the

normal waking hours for the officer, unless the seriousness of the investigation requires otherwise. If the interrogation does occur during off-duty time of the officer being interrogated, the officer shall be compensated for any off-duty time in accordance with MOU.

The officer under investigation shall be informed prior to the interrogation of the rank, name, and command of the officer in charge of the interrogation, the interrogating supervisors, and all other persons to be present during the interrogation. All questions directed to the officer under investigation shall be asked by and through no more than two interrogators at one time.

The officer under investigation shall

be informed of the nature of the investigation prior to any interrogation. (Don't start answering questions unless you clearly understand what the allegations are.)

The interrogating session shall be for a reasonable period taking into consideration gravity and complexity of the issue being investigated. The person under investigation shall be allowed to attend to his or her own personal physical necessities. (Fatigue, hunger, and the stress of the interview take its toll. Don't be afraid to invoke this section. Some long complex interviews may need to be broken up over several days.)

continued on page 18

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(323) 222-2627

Email: james@lapraachomeloan.com

Weber continued from page 16

The officer under interrogation shall not be subjected to offensive language or threatened with punitive action, except that an officer refusing to respond to questions or submit to interrogations shall be informed that failure to answer questions directly related to the investigation or interrogation may result in punitive action. No promise of reward shall be made as an inducement to answering any question. The employer shall not cause the public safety officer under interrogation to be subjected to visits by the press or news media without his or her express consent nor shall his or her home address or photograph be given to the press or news media without his or her express consent.

The complete interrogation of an officer may be recorded. If a tape recording is made of the interrogation, the officer shall have access to the tape if any further proceedings are contemplated or prior to any further interrogation at a subsequent time. No notes or reports that are deemed to be confidential may be entered in the officer's personnel file. The officer being interrogated shall have the right to bring his or her own recording device and record any and all aspects of the interrogation.

If prior to or during the interrogation of an officer it is deemed that he or she may be charged with a criminal offense, he or she shall be immediately informed of his or her Constitutional rights. (**If you are advised of your rights do not waive them!** This is the time to seriously consider talking to an attorney prior to continuing if one is not present.)

(Note: The law and Department policy requires the investigators to stop an

interview and allow an officer a reasonable amount of time to obtain an attorney if they request one. This is **not** limited to criminal matters.)

An officer, at his or her request, shall have the right to be represented by a representative of his or her choice who may be present at all times during the interrogation. (You have to invoke that right. The Department is under no legal obligation to advise you of your right to an employee representative. The representative cannot be a person subject to the same investigation. MOU section 10.0 covers representation for the Department.)

(You have limited confidentiality with a sworn employee representative.) The representative shall not be required to disclose, nor be subject to any punitive action for refusing to disclose, any information received from the officer under investigation for **non-criminal matters**.

Next month, I will report on another aspect of the disciplinary process.

Hollywood and West Valley

On February 18, I attended and spoke to all the roll calls at West Valley. I appreciated the opportunity to meet with the officers and look forward to another meeting in March.

On February 6, I attended the Supervisors meeting for Hollywood Division. The subject matter of these meetings doesn't seem to change. How can we get more done with less. I attended the roll calls at Hollywood Division on March 10th.

Hero Remembered:

On March 10, 2003, 1100 hours, Hollywood Station remembered the 40th anniversary of the infamous murder of Policeman Ian J. Campbell, Serial No. 10046. On Saturday, March 9, 1963,

Policeman Campbell was murdered in an onion field and the story became a best-selling book by author and former LAPD Officer Joseph Wambaugh. The Board presented a League wreath for the event. Detective John Miller, Hollywood Detectives, planned the event.

The chilling story retold by Campbell's partner, Los Angeles Police Officer Karl Hettinger, began in Hollywood when he and Campbell, a Korean veteran, stopped a suspicious car at Gower Street and Carlos Avenue. The car matched the description of one involved in several armed robberies. The two individuals in the car were Gregory Powell and Jimmy Smith and they were about to become cop killers.

Campbell walked to the car when one man jumped from the car, pointed a .32 caliber revolver at him and shouted to

Hettinger to surrender. "I could have shot the other guy," said Hettinger, "but Campbell would have been shot."

According to Hettinger's story, Smith held the gun on Campbell and Hettinger, and ordered

Powell to get into the unmarked police car and follow him. Powell wasn't able to release the emergency brake, so instead, the two ex-convicts forced the officers into the suspects' car and drove from Los Angeles to Kern County. On the way, the detective recalled, the two men discussed releasing the officers at Gorman, but changed their minds.

The car finally left the highway and traveled along a dirt road for more than three miles, Hettinger said, when the car was stopped approximately 25 miles

south of Bakersfield, a mile and a quarter south of the Clifford Mettler Ranch.

Both officers were ordered out of the car. Powell stood with his gun trained on Campbell and asked, "Have you heard of the Little Lindberg Law?" Campbell, his hands held over his head, answered "Yes." Powell fired at the instant, hitting Campbell in the head. At the same time, Hettinger said, the moon was obscured by clouds. He turned and fled. As he did, the shocked officer said, he saw the other man, Smith, pumping bullets into Campbell's falling body.

CHP officers took Gregory Powell, 30, into custody on Highway 99, 16 miles south of Bakersfield hours after the murder. Following a swift and efficient dragnet operation by officers, Jimmy Lee Smith, 32, of Los Angeles, was arrested in a rooming house in Bakersfield the next day.

Smith is out of prison now and Powell is serving his sentence at California Men's Colony, San Luis Obispo, California.

Ian Campbell left behind a wife and two pre-school age daughters.

Officer Karl Hettinger, Died Bakersfield, California (May 4, 1994) "History will show that Karl Hettinger died with only a handful of his former colleagues present at his

funeral. But, to those who knew him, Karl's long slow death began in that onion field more than 30 years ago."

Remember officer safety is job #1!



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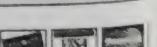
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Five Star Earns Certified Program Honor

Take a great program – the Chrysler Group's Certified Pre-Owned Vehicle Program – and add the corporation's top-notch dealers – Five Star dealers. The result is a program that, although in its infancy, is already winning consumer recognition.

"We're proud to have been named the best domestic certified pre-owned vehicle program in America* by IntelliChoice," said Ray Fisher, DaimlerChrysler Vice President, Fleet and Remarketing. "It validates our decision to offer the best pre-owned vehicles through the best dealers in the Chrysler Group family. That result is a win-win situation for our customers."

Fisher was referring to a September 2002 review of 23 manufacturer programs by IntelliChoice – an automotive information provider. The company also ranked the Chrysler

Group's certified pre-owned vehicle program the second-best overall non-luxury certified program in America, ahead of such companies as Toyota, Saturn, Chevrolet, Buick, Pontiac, GMC and Volkswagen.

"To be ranked above companies that have been selling certified pre-owned vehicles for quite some time clearly shows we did our homework prior to launching this program. We made sure it contains all of the elements that today's customers want from a certified pre-owned vehicle program," Fisher added.

Available exclusively via Five Star dealers, Chrysler, Jeep® and Dodge Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles are a great value for anyone looking for a high-quality, thoroughly inspected vehicle.

"We're very selective about who can become



a Five Star dealer. We're just as discriminating about which vehicles can be considered candidates for our certification. In fact, it's limited to late-model vehicles in excellent condition. If the vehicle is over five model years old or has over 65,000 miles, it's immediately excluded, as is any vehicle without a clean history or title," Fisher added.

Once these vehicles pass the qualification standards, they undergo a rigorous 125-point inspection that focuses

on the mechanical, safety and appearance elements of the vehicle.

"Customers expect us to look at those critical elements. However, even such mundane items as a missing spare key or Owner's Manual will be enough to cause us to not certify a vehicle," Fisher explained.

All Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles are backed by an 8-year or 80,000-mile (measured from original vehicle in-service date) Powertrain Limited

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Should the vehicle require repair to a covered component, the customer's only financial responsibility is a \$50 deductible per repair visit.

During the same mileage/time period, the Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles are eligible for 24-hour Roadside Assistance, covering such items as flat tire changes, fuel delivery, lock-out assistance and battery jump starts.

There's even Car Rental Allowance, which reimburses owners up to \$30 a day should their vehicle be kept overnight for service during the 8/80,000 Powertrain Limited Warranty period.

Certified Pre-Owned Vehicle customers may also purchase one of three warranty upgrades: Added Care, Added Care Plus or Maximum Care for maximum component coverage.

"Making this program exclusive to our Five Star dealers ensures our customers are receiving the absolute best customer treatment. I'm really happy to see an independent outfit like IntelliChoice recognized the hard work of all the folks that helped put our program together. We will strive to make the program even better next year," Fisher concluded.

*IntelliChoice Inc. (www.IntelliChoice.com) September 2002 review of 23 manufacturer programs. Domestic brands are both originated and based in the United States.

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^{*}Warranty runs 8 years from date vehicle was new or 80,000 miles on odometer. A deductible applies. For more details and a copy of the limited warranty, see dealer or call 1-800-677-5STAR. Availability may vary by dealer.

[†]Administered by Cross Country Motor Club, Inc., Medford, MA 02155. You must call 1-800-521-2779 for prior authorization to receive these benefits. [‡]Rental car coverage only if repairs take vehicle out of service more than one day.

[§]IntelliChoice rated DaimlerChrysler's Certified Program for Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge among the best non-luxury pre-owned programs in America, ahead of Ford, Mercury, Chevrolet, Buick, GMC, Saturn, Toyota, Volkswagen and Hyundai.

IntelliChoice rated DaimlerChrysler's Certified Pre-Owned Program for Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge the best domestic non-luxury pre-owned program in America (ahead of Ford, Mercury, Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Saturn).

Domestic brands are both originated and based in the United States. IntelliChoice Inc., (www.IntelliChoice.com) September 2002 review of 23 manufacturer programs.

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POLITICAL FRONTLINE



LAPPL LEGISLATIVE CORNER

By Timothy H.B. Yaryan - LAPPL Legislative Counsel and Advocate

The 2003-2004 Legislative Session is now well underway. Friday, February 21, was the "deadline" to introduce bills, and this year we have reviewed over 2,700 bills and resolutions. Many bills that have been introduced make only a small or technical change in the law. These are known as "spot bills" because they hold a "spot" for more substantive amendments later. These are bills that we need to keep a "watch" on as, often times, it's the amendments to the bill you have to watch out for.

The League's primary legislative goal this year is job protection. It is imperative that we defeat the Administration's Budget proposal to eliminate the VLF backfill to local governments and to keep our other programs (i.e., COPS) funded. Loss of the VLF backfill would seriously and adversely impact Los Angeles. It will certainly impede contract negotiations. Ultimately, loss of VLF backfill dollars will result in many layoffs and loss of jobs. (See my last

Blue Line column for more background.)

Unfortunately, I see very little hope for any successful resolution of the state budget much before this fall—if then—and I'm afraid that the impasse will cast a dark cloud over any progress our negotiating team hopes to make in securing a new contract for League members. Ironically, we're strong allies of the city on state budget issues, but we're adversaries at the bargaining table. It's unfortunate that we have this serious disconnect. I only hope that our City Council members remember that it is the political clout that the public safety organizations bring that will ultimately ensure that the VLF backfill war is won!

One of the reasons we have a budget impasse—outside of the obvious partisanship—is that some of the administration's budget proposals were simply not well conceived. The VLF rip-off has been a loser from the start, and the shift of social service programs from the state to counties was made without adequate constitution and input from local governments. In fact, Legislative Counsel has opined the administration's proposal violates Proposition 98. With "non-

starters" like these, it's little wonder nothing is getting accomplished.

As far as new legislation in 2003, the League will sponsor, along with ALADS, the Professional Peace Officers' Association and Riverside Sheriffs, legislation to add a rank-and-file officer to POST. Senator Gil Cedillo (D-Los Angeles) will be the author. A bill to prohibit POST from exercising discretionary authority to revoke your POST certificates will be introduced by Senator Gloria Romero (D-Los Angeles). The League will also be sponsoring, along with the above groups and the CA Independent Public Employees Labor Council (CIPELC) anti-bio-terrorism legislation which will cover officers if they have an adverse reaction to the smallpox vaccine that you will all be "asked" to take, or if officers are exposed to anthrax or some other biological weapon and have to take Cipro (a very powerful antibiotic, which can have some extremely debilitating side effects), you can take paid time off. Assemblymember Lou Correa (D-Santa Ana) will author this proposal. Hopefully, this is legislation you will never need.

One very important bill we will be working on is a bill that the League will jointly sponsor with ALADS and Los Angeles District Attorney Steve Cooley to help prosecute fugitives who flee to Mexico. League President Bob Baker wrote about this issue very eloquently in his last *Blue Line* column, and we will develop legislation which would waive jeopardy in California and would help facilitate the ultimate prosecution of Armando Garcia, a fugitive suspected in the murder of Deputy David March. Assemblymember Marco Firebaugh has agreed to author this legislation.

The League will also be sponsoring legislation to establish a confidential

legal privilege for peer counseling (Assemblymember Jay La Suer, R-La Mesa, will author), and a bill to add a new section to the Peace Officer Bill of Rights to protect an officer's right to work off-duty. This latter bill came about because of the serious abuse officers suffered under the Parks administration. Assemblymember Paul Koretz (D-West Hollywood) will author the POBR bill.

The League is also working with the California District Attorneys' Association to sponsor legislation expanding the law on identity theft, which will be authored by Assemblymember Patricia Wiggins (D-Santa Rosa), and we will introduce a bill to clean up a "chaptering out" problem we had with last year's AB1840. (A later enacted bill last year inadvertently chaptered out part of the League's co-sponsored AB1840 relating to guard costs which eliminated the authority of BSIS to charge peace officers for fingerprints. We'll get that fixed ASAP, so you won't have to pay a fee for fingerprinting or pay more than once.)

Finally, the League will be working with other rank and peace officer organizations to limit to five years the complaints and reports relating to prior complaints that can remain in your personnel file. (Assembly Members, Jay La Suer and Ken Maddox will introduce legislation.) This last proposal will face stiff opposition.

So, that's just a few of the fights that will keep us busy this session. I will detail the bill numbers of each of these proposals and add other key bills of concern to my "Hot List" of bills which will be published on the League's Web site and in the next *Blue Line*. Until next time, stay safe!

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION



For Your Information is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. We encourage you to submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

KLEIN'S KORNER

by Judge Ross Klein

May a vehicle's passenger challenge an officer's detention of the driver of a motor vehicle? While some earlier cases have said yes, more recent cases have limited the passenger's right.

Courts and counsel have frequently used the term "standing" in discussing the passenger's rights. The United States Supreme Court states that the appropriate standard is whether the challenged conduct violated the defendant's Fourth Amendment rights (*Rakas v. Illinois* (1978) 439 U.S. 128, 138-140, *United States v. Salvucci* (1980) 448 U.S. 83). However, Justice Bedsworth wryly notes that "the term has demonstrated a vampiric persistence and if the United States Supreme Court cannot drive a stake through its heart, we doubt that we can." (*People v. Cartwright* (1999) 72 Cal App 4th 1362, fn. 8)

Any driver may question the legality of the traffic detention (*People v. Glick* (1988) 203 Cal App 3rd 796). To justify a traffic stop there must be reasonable suspicion that there has been a violation of the Vehicle Code or some other law

(*People v. Maranda* (1993) 17 Cal App 4th 917). A traffic stop is sometimes referred to as being a "Terry" investigatory stop or detention (*United States v. Sharpe* (1985) 470 U.S. 675, *Terry v. Ohio* (1968) 392 U.S. 1). "As a general matter, the decision to stop an automobile is reasonable where the police have probable cause to believe that a traffic violation has occurred." (*Whren v. United States* (1996) 517 U.S. 806)

In *People v. Lionberger* (1986) 185 Cal App 3rd Supp 1 the Appellate Department of the Ventura County Superior Court held that the courts could not legally distinguish between the driver's and the passenger's rights. If the vehicle is stopped, then all of the vehicle's occupants are equally affected (185 Cal App 3rd Supp 1 at p. 5). Although the court denied the defendant's motion to suppress under Penal Code section 1538.5, *People v. Grant* (1990) 217 Cal App 3rd 1451 concurred with *Lionberger* and concluded that when a driver is detained for a traffic violation, the passenger's liberty is equally impacted. *People v. Bell* (1996) 43 Cal App 4th 754 also held that the

passenger may challenge the driver's detention since they were both physically detained at the same time.

People v. Fisher (1995) 38 Cal App 4th 338 disagrees with *Lionberger*. "We believe that in constitutional terms a passenger is not 'lawfully stopped,' seized or detained merely because the vehicle in which he or she is riding is stopped for a traffic violation." (38 Cal App 4th at p. 344)

People v. Cartwright (1999) 72 Cal App 4th 1362 also disagrees with *Lionberger* and its progeny. *Cartwright* held that a passenger is seized within the meaning of the Fourth Amendment only when the officer physically restrains him or if he exercises a show of authority and the defendant, as would a reasonably innocent person, submits to it. The court cites *People v. Gonzalez* (1992) 7 Cal App 4th 381 in which the police ordered the passenger to get back into the car and to keep his hands in plain sight. *Gonzalez* said that the passenger was not detained until the officer ordered him to get back into the car. The only logical conclusion in this scenario, held *Cartwright*, is that the passenger

was not seized when the vehicle was stopped. The *Cartwright* decision also cited the United States Supreme Court decision in *Maryland v. Wilson* (1997) 519 U.S. 408. In *Wilson* the passenger was observed to be very nervous and perspiring. The officer ordered him out of the car and, as he got out, cocaine fell to the ground. *Wilson* stated that "There is probable cause to believe that the driver has committed a minor vehicular offense, but there is no such reason to stop or detain the passengers." (519 U.S. at 413)

In accord with *Cartwright* is *People v. Castellon* (1999) 76 Cal App 4th 1369 that held that a passenger in a vehicle stopped for a Vehicle Code violation may terminate a consensual encounter with the police and leave the location. *Cartwright* noted that "only a minuscule few will actually act on that freedom" (72 Cal App 3rd at p. 1374). If justified by the specific facts of the traffic encounter, the officer has the right to order the passenger to remain in or out of the vehicle to ensure the officer's safety.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Peace, Rest and Healing at the Desert Refuge Center

by L.V. Sturges
Public Relations Specialist

"Work and pray" is the motto of Father Michael McCullough, Executive Director of the Desert Refuge for Peace Officers (DRPO) located in the desert community of Joshua Tree, California. The DRPO is the vision of Father Mike.

as he is known by his fellow officers, a Catholic priest, LAPD Reserve Officer, and law enforcement chaplain.

Through his 28 years of ministering to the law enforcement community, Father Mike was led to offer a place of rest and healing to police officers and those who support law enforcement.

The DRPO rests on five acres of land

in the solitude of the community of Joshua Tree. Over 45 species of birds have been located in the area and various desert and drought resistant plants surround the DRPO.

"Our purpose is to provide officers with a retreat, offering respite, relief and an opportunity to seek some balance from the often emotionally and physically challenging career," said Commander Gary Brennan, a DRPO Board member.

Father Mike's vision began in 1986 when he decided to offer a place of strength and support for those dealing with the stress and crisis that comes with a career in law enforcement.

"The healing is what touches me the most about the center. Without TV and distractions, people take the time to think and listen. There is unbelievable beauty in simplicity," said McCullough.

Finding help and funding continues to

be a challenge to the DRPO, but the facility continues to be strengthened through donations of time and money.

"I come out to the center the first weekend of every month. We serve everyone in law enforcement from officers, to the support staff," said McCullough.

Over 70 visitors traveled to Joshua Tree in 2002 to experience the DRPO. There have been 357 visitors since the center's inception in 1994.

The DRPO is publicized through a mailing list, at Department events and by word of mouth. It is a nondenominational center where people of all faiths are encouraged to come for restoration, relaxation and healing.

"My joy is seeing someone who was struggling, leave with peace and a resolution," says Father Mike. "It just doesn't get any better than that."

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Former President Bush Honored for Work on Behalf of Law Enforcement

Former President George H.W. Bush was recently presented with the "Distinguished Service Award" by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) for his outstanding support of America's law enforcement officers, especially the important role he played in establishing the national monument honoring our nation's fallen police officers.

"During his presidency, America's police officers had no stronger advocate," declared NLEOMF Chairman

Craig W. Floyd. "He honored the law enforcement profession with his participation in the Memorial's groundbreaking ceremony in 1989, and again in 1991, when he and Mrs. Bush dedicated the Memorial. We were proud indeed to inscribe a particularly moving excerpt from his groundbreaking speech on this Memorial. It reads: Carved on these walls is the story of America, of a continuing quest to preserve both democracy and decency, and to protect a national treasure that we call the American

dream."

President Bush was also the first American President ever to attend and speak at the National Peace Officers Memorial Day service, which is held annually on May 15 at the U.S. Capitol. "Thanks to his leadership, it is now a tradition that the President of the United States attends and speaks at that important event—a tradition upheld by his son last year," Mr. Floyd observed.

The Distinguished Service Award is presented each year during the Memorial's Candlelight Vigil on May 13th. President Bush was unable to attend the 2002 Candlelight Vigil due to a prior commitment. However, arrangements

were made for the award to be presented to President Bush on December 9, 2002, at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, D.C.

Located in Washington, D.C., the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial recognizes fallen officers from all branches of law enforcement. The marble walls of the Memorial currently bear the names of over 16,000 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. Corporations interested in joining the Membership program should contact the Memorial Fund at (202) 737-3400 or visit the Web site at www.nleomf.com.

Fallen Officers Honored at Wreath-Laying Ceremony

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) recently held their annual Wreath-laying Ceremony commemorating the memorial's dedication 11 years ago. Hundreds of dignitaries, law enforcement officers, and survivors of fallen officers gathered at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial to recognize the occasion and to honor the 16,000 officers, and their families, who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Events during the past year, such as the 9/11 terrorist attacks and the D.C. serial sniper case have helped to increase public support for our law officers, observed NLEOMF Chairman

Craig W. Floyd. But he added that "when these recent memories fade and people forget about the tough cases that affected us all, the daring heroics, the selfless sacrifice, this Memorial will continue to stand as a permanent reminder."

He also used the occasion to discuss plans to build the National Law Enforcement Museum right across the street from the Memorial. "Two years ago, the United States Congress gave us the land for the museum and now the plans are being put in place and the money is being raised," Mr. Floyd said. The project will take at least six years to complete, but when it is done, it will be

the largest and most comprehensive museum of its kind in the world serving as an important and much needed bridge between law enforcement's past and present; between the fallen and those who continue to follow in their footsteps; between the officers and the public they serve."

Keynote speaker and United States Park Police Chief, Teresa Chambers, presented the commemorative wreath, along with D.C. Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) President Shirley Gibson, and Gentry Davis, Deputy Regional Director of the National Park Service. A special tribute was also given to eight officers, and their families, from the D.C. area who were recently killed in the line of duty. Those officers included: Kevin Joseph McCarthy (Baltimore City Police Department), John David Platt

(Baltimore City Police Department), Mark Frank Parry (Baltimore County Police Department), Kristin M. Pataki (Maryland National Capital Park Police), Hakim Farthing (United States Park Police), Crystal D. Sheffield (Baltimore City Police Department), James Arnaud (Prince Georges County Sheriffs Department), and Elizabeth L. Magruder (France Georges County Sheriffs Department).

Located in Washington, D.C., the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial recognizes fallen officers from all branches of law enforcement. The marble walls of the Memorial currently bear the names of over 15,000 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. For more information, visit the Memorial Web site at www.nleomf.com.

NATIONAL DISPATCHERS' WEEK

APRIL 14-18, 2003

by PSR Stacy DaSilva, Community Relations Unit Communications Division

Celebrate National Dispatcher's Week

Who is the person behind the voice answering a frantic 9-1-1 call from a parent reporting their missing child or a robbery that just occurred? Who is the person behind the voice updating the police officer's status and locations and ready to broadcast an officer emergency at any given moment? These voices belong to the Police Service Representatives (PSRs) of the LAPD's Communications Division.

Being a PSR can be very rewarding and exciting, knowing that by hearing your calming voice, the caller knows someone is there ready to help, or to assist a police officer by broadcasting a wild vehicle pursuit through the city. It also means being ready for the unexpected and unusual, while keeping your composure, compassion and professionalism.

Communications Division has approximately 480 PSRs assigned to the Metropolitan Communications Dispatch Center (MCDC). The MCDC is the busiest public safety answering point in the state. Last year, PSRs answered over

3.3 million calls for service, and the average operator can take anywhere from 150 to 250 calls per day, depending on the shift. Every day PSRs do their job without the glory or recognition offered to other members of the Department. This is why we will be honoring our PSRs on a daily basis throughout the week of April 14th through 18th, 2003, designated as National Dispatchers' Week.

Planned activities include a luncheon provided for the PSRs on each watch, cake and a small appreciation gift for each PSR. We will also be honoring our "Most Valuable PSRs" (MVPs). Three

PSRs and a supervisor will be awarded this honor, nominated and voted by their co-workers for their teamwork and exemplary service to the Department and our community. Communications Division will also sponsor an open house welcoming all media, police, and city personnel, to enjoy refreshments and tour our new, high-tech, state-of-the-art Metropolitan Communications Dispatch Center. Please take this opportunity to visit the new MCDC and see for yourself the great job our PSRs do every day.

LEAP For LEAAP Member

Assistant Chief Jim McDonnell was honored by the Law Enforcement Association of Asian Pacifics (LEAAP) at a

reception on January 10th held in City Hall's historic 24th Floor. McDonnell is one of the original members of LEEAP.



Detective Ben Lee, Officer Chih-Hang Chi, Commander Billy Quach, Chief William Bratton, Assistant Chief Jim McDonnell, Sergeant Daniel Wong, and Commander Paul Kim.



Pictured from left to right are Sgt. Dan Wong, Asst. Chief Jim McDonnell and Commander Billy Quach.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Los Angeles Police Officers Make the Best Recruiters

"The Department is a lot different from when I came on," explains veteran Det. Roger Michel as he reflects on his 29-year career with the Los Angeles Police Department.

"Officers should look for qualities in people that they would like to see on the Department," he advises. Det. Michel practices what he preaches. Before

recruiting his son, for whom he is receiving the \$500 bonus, he convinced one of the jailers from early in his career to join. Det. Michel remembers running into his old colleague after a long while only to find that he is now a Detective III. Michel admits that he was honestly elated and proud that he was able to encourage someone to take advantage of the

excellent opportunity available in the Los Angeles Police Department.

Michel says, "There simply is no better satisfaction than seeing new people come on who are as excited and dedicated as I was when I first started. I mean once you get as old as me, you can just about tell who has what it takes to be successful at this job. I can almost go down to a graduation and hand pick the ones likely to succeed." Michel puts it best, "No one knows better the stresses and hardships that go along with becoming an LAPD officer than an actual LAPD officer."

Though he has spent nearly a lifetime on the Department, just over 29 years, Det. Michel never really considered being a police officer even though he was no stranger to law enforcement. His father was a reservist for another agency throughout his childhood. Subsequently, he grew up around officers. "I was actually taking a Police Science course at a local community college when my professor encouraged me to apply. I was already aware of the rewards associated with being an LAPD officer as it applies to sense of accomplishment and job satisfaction. However, he was able to entice me with the job security, benefits package and retirement plan," explains Det. Michel. I guess his professor saw qualities in Michel that he thought would make a fine officer.

It seems that the professor was right. Before becoming a detective, Michel spent 16 years on patrol, which he accurately considers the backbone of the Department. He has patrolled many beats and worked a variety of assignments, but is still a firm believer that no other job is as rewarding or exciting than being an officer on the Los Angeles Police Department.

"Of course there are some down sides," he says. "But one has the choice to be miserable or not. Officers do them-

selves and the community a real disservice by not sharing the positive aspects of being an LAPD officer. Officers should always look for the recruit, those who they consider to have what it takes to maintain the Los Angeles Police Department pride, honor and status as the best and most admired law enforcement agency in the country," encourages Det. Michel.

When asked what he intends to do with the money, Det. Michel was quite frank. He said, he would likely use the money to assist his son with the purchase of some equipment that he will need as he goes through the Academy.

Now that is what I call commitment! Not only did he convince a good candidate to consider a job with the Los Angeles Police Department, but also Det. Michel is helping to provide the necessary tools for success. It is this type of recruitment and mentorship that should inspire all officers to take a role in the continuous growth and development of L.A.'s finest. True enough it may help that it is his son, but it is certain that Det. Michel would do the same for any candidate that he'd put his name on.

Ultimately, it comes down to one thing. Police officers themselves make the best recruiters! Remember that if indeed patrol is the backbone of the Department, then it is only beneficial to encourage those who you identify as having what it takes to be successful.

LAPD Recruitment and Employment Division and the Personnel Department's Public Safety Bureau invite you to accept the challenge AND earn \$500 and choose the person that might someday be your partner!

Contact R.E.D. at (213) 485-3800 or Janeshia Robinson at (213) 847-9255 with any questions or concerns regarding the Police Officer Recruitment Incentive Program.

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- Excellent health

Bonus payment will be issued directly to the recipient as taxable income.

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First, recruit someone you believe will succeed in an exciting and rewarding career as a Police Officer with the Los Angeles Police Department.

Next, the Recruiter (current or retired City employee) and the Candidate must complete and sign a "Police Officer Recruitment Incentive Program" card (note: bonus does not apply to candidates already in the selection process).

Finally, the Candidate submits the card to the test proctor at the time of the Police Officer Written Test, or directly to the Personnel Department (Room 150).

That's it! The \$500 bonus will be processed upon verification of the candidate's appointment to the Police Academy.

Police Officer Recruitment Incentive Program Cards are available at:

Personnel Department
700 E. Temple St., Room 150.
Police Department/Employee Opportunity and Development Division
150 N. Los Angeles St., Room 809; and
all Department Personnel Offices

For information call:
(213) 847-9060

* To qualify, the current or retired City employee must be a member of the City Payroll or City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS) at the time the candidate is appointed to the Police Academy. Participants involved in the recruitment, screening, testing, and/or selection of candidates for City employment or Police Officers are not eligible.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Crime Victims with Disabilities Community Watch Project

The Crime Victims with Disabilities Community Watch Project (CVDS) at the USC University Affiliated Program at Children's Hospital Los Angeles is designed to help crime victims with disabilities to gain access to the justice system. This project is funded by the California Department of Mental Health as part of a statewide Crime Victims with Disabilities Initiative.

Studies show that people with disabilities are 4 to 10 times more likely to be victims of crime than people without a

disability. There is also a high likelihood of re-victimization, because offenders believe that there is little chance of getting caught or of being punished. Crimes against people with disabilities are less likely to be reported to the proper authorities such as Adult Protective Services or Law Enforcement, so there is no way to clearly define the scope of the problem. However, the last census estimated that there are 9.5 million people in Los Angeles. Of those 9.5 million, there are 1.5 million people with dis-

abilities that live in the community who are at significant risk for being victims of crimes.

The CVDS staff are experts at working with people with disabilities. They can help LAPD field officers and detectives in the following areas: Identifying whether someone has a disability and needs special assistance; modifying questions used in interviews so that they are easier to answer by a person with a disability; interpreting what a person with a disability is trying to say and identifying resources for the victim such as regional center or specialized crisis intervention services. They are available to assist the victim throughout the reporting and investigation process.

The CVDS staff are trained to not tamper with evidence during a criminal investigation. When working with the LAPD they do not speak for the victim

or for the officer or detective working on the case. In many ways, they are like a translation service so that victims with disabilities and LAPD officers can communicate with each other more effectively.

CVDS staff can also provide the following services free of charge assistance for crime victims with disabilities in obtaining restraining orders, legal accompaniment for crime victims and providing training for people with disabilities and their caregivers about basic safety and what to do if a crime happens to them.

If you are currently working with a crime victim with a disability or you would like to receive more training or information about this project, call (323) 644-8323. CVDS staff are on call from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. seven days a week. All services are free of charge.

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ATTENDANCE:

The conference is scheduled for three-and-a-half days of instruction. The conference is open to all full time law enforcement personnel, including prison, court, parole, probation and prosecution. *Agency identification is required.*

REGISTRATION FEES:

\$185.00 for conference registration. Payment may be made by check, Visa, MasterCard and/or American Express. Registration covers all training materials, instruction and a dinner banquet. There will be a Certificate of Completion issued to all attendees.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:

The Riviera Resort, 1600 North Indian Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, CA., is extending a special group rate of \$98.00 plus tax, per room for conference attendees. Attendees must make their own reservations. *The deadline for special rates will be April 19, 2003.* Reservations can be made by calling (800) 444-8311. There will be a \$6 fee per day assessed to your bill for parking, unlimited local calls, 5 free incoming fax's, daily Los Angeles Times paper, free in room coffee, 24 hour fitness center, unlimited use of the putting course and shuttle service to downtown and the airport. The conference will be held at the resort conference facility.

SIGN-IN TIMES:

Registration will begin on Monday, May 19, 2003, between 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM. Late registration will be on Tuesday, May 20, 2003, between 7:00 AM and 8:30 AM.

FOR ASSISTANCE OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please feel free to call any person(s) listed below for assistance. A registration form is required for each person attending. Mail in your registration form to reserve seating. If guaranteed registration fee is delayed due to departmental processing, indicate "Payment Forthcoming" on the registration form.

NOTE: The conference registrations may be made by FAX at (858) 495-5597.

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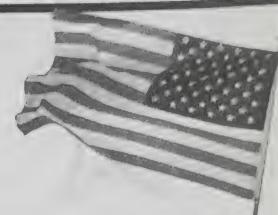
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VETERAN'S CORNER



American Legion News

Commander Richard Ledesma

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Covina, CA 91724
Hm: (626) 331-4271

Editor:
"J.J." Leonard
(818) 992-1414



Past Police Post Meeting

For those "who weren't there", here's who you missed: **J.J. Leonard, Richard Kalk, Bill Zimmerman** (who sneaked out before dinner), **Hal Yarnell, Frank Ortiz, Cmdr. Richard & First Lady Elvia Ledesma, Mike Reagan, Bob Reeves, Frank Torres, Samuel Mells, Sig Schian, Dennis De Noi, Boris Ming, Ray Elmer, Emmett Drennen, Clint Erickson, Rob Welborn, Cliff Shannon, Glen Kailey, Sam & Bertha Zagorianos** (our adopted favorites from the Greek Post), **Pinky Meredith, Bob May and George Hofstetter** (names are printed in order of arrival at meeting or in the order they signed in).

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Los Angeles Police Department Manual

Vol. 3-636.30 VETERANS EMBLEM. As a means of displaying veterans status, one discharge button or one official emblem of a veterans' organization (such as the American Legion) either of the Armed Forces of the United States or an ally friendly to the United States at the time of service, may be worn at the top left pocket of the uniform shirt.

Special Days

April 9, Wednesday, L.A. Police Emerald Society
April 11, 12 & 13, Pacific Grove for the Annual Police Motorcycle Competition
April 13, Sunday, Palm Sunday
April 17, Thursday, First Day of Passover
April 18, Friday, Good Friday
April 20, Sunday, Easter Sunday
April 27, Sunday, Orthodox Easter

This is Real Good!

Military Pay Article: I feel this airman's response to the *Washington Times* should be printed in all newspapers across America. Especially now when the President of calling up more Reserves and National Guardsmen. It's time the Jane Fondas and Shaun Penns of this country wise up and support the troops that defend them. (Noel Pritzl, 1st V.P. USDR)

On November 12, Ms. Cindy Williams (from Laverne & Shirley TV show) wrote a piece for the *Washington Times* denouncing the pay raise(s) coming service members' way this year—citing that the stated 13% wage was more than they deserve. A young airman from Hill AFB responds to her article below. He ought to get a bonus for this!

"Ms. Williams:

I just had the pleasure of reading your column, "Our GIs Earn Enough," and I am a bit confused. Frankly, I'm wondering where this vaunted overpayment is going, because as far as I can tell, it disappears every month between DFAS (the Defense Finance and Accounting Service) and my bank account. Checking my latest leave and earnings statement (LES), I see that I make \$1,117.80 before taxes. After taxes, I take home \$874.20. When I run that through Windows' calculator, I come up with an annual salary of \$13,413.60 before taxes, and \$10,490.40 after. I work in the Air Force Network Control Center (AFNCC), where I am part of the team responsible for the administration of a 5,000-host computer network. I am involved with infrastructure segments, specifically with Cisco Systems equipment. A quick check under jobs for Network Technicians in the Washington, D.C. area reveals a position in my career field requiring three years experience with my job. Amazingly, this job does

NOT pay \$13,413.60 a year, no does it pay less than this. No, this job is being offered at \$70,000 to \$80,000 per annum. I'm sure you can draw the obvious conclusions. Also, you tout increases to Basic Allowance for housing and Basic Allowance Subsistence (housing and food allowances, respectively) as being a further boon to an already over-compensated force. Again, I'm curious as to where this money has gone, as BAH and BAS were both slashed 15% in the Hill AFB area effective in January, 2000. Given the tenor of your column, I would assume that you have NEVER had the pleasure of serving your country in her armed forces. Before you take it upon yourself to once more castigate congressional and DOD leadership for attempting to get the families in the military's lowest pay brackets off AFDC, WIC, and food stamps, I suggest that you join a group of deploying soldiers headed for Afghanistan. I leave the choice of service branch up to you. Whatever choice you make though, opt for the SIX month rotation: it will guarantee you the longest possible time away from your family and friends, thus giving you full "deployment experience." As your group prepares to board the plane, make sure to note the spouses and children who are saying goodbye to their

continued on page 28

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VETERAN'S CORNER

continued from page 27

loved ones. Also take care to note that several families are still unsure of how they'll be able to make ends meet while the primary breadwinner is gone—obviously they've been squandering the vast piles of cash the DOD has given them. Try to deploy over a major holiday; Christmas and Thanksgiving are perennial favorites. And when you're actually over there, sitting in a DFP (Defensive Fire Position, the modern-day foxhole), shivering against the cold desert night; and the flight sergeant tells you that there aren't enough people on shift to relieve you for chow, remember this: trade whatever MRE (meal-ready-to-eat) you manage to get for the tuna noodle casserole or cheese tortellini, and add Tabasco to everything. This gives some flavor. Talk to your loved ones as often as you are permitted; it won't nearly be long enough or often enough, but take what you can get and be thankful for it. You may have picked up on the fact that I disagree with most of the points you present in your op-ed piece. But, tomorrow from Kabul I will defend to the death your right to say it. You see, I am an American fighting man, a guarantor of your First Amendment rights and every other right you cherish. On a daily basis, my brother and sister soldiers worldwide ensure that you and people like you can thumb your collective nose at us, all on a salary that is nothing short of pitiful and under conditions that would make most people cringe. We hemorrhage our best and brightest into the private sector because we can't offer the stability and pay of civilian companies. And you, Ms. Williams, have the gall to say that we make more than we deserve? Rubbish! (A1C Michael Bragg, Hill AFB AFNCC).

Interviewing Skills

Marine Corps General Reinwald was interviewed on the radio a while back and you have to read his reply to the lady who interviewed him concerning guns and children. Regardless of how you feel about gun laws, you gotta love this!

This is one of the best comeback lines of all time. It is a portion of National Public Radio (NPR) interview between a female broadcaster and U.S. Marine Corps General Reinwald who was about to sponsor a Boy Scout Troop visiting his military installation.

Female Interviewer: So, General Reinwald, what things are you going to teach these young boys when they visit your base?

General Reinwald: We're going to teach them climbing, canoeing, archery

and shooting.

Female Interviewer: Shooting! That's a big irresponsible, isn't it?

General Reinwald: I don't see why. They'll be properly supervised on the rifle range.

Female Interviewer: Don't you admit that this is a terribly dangerous activity to be teaching children?

General Reinwald: I don't see how. We will be teaching them proper rifle discipline before they even touch a firearm.

Female Interviewer: But you're equipping them to become violent killers.

General Reinwald: Well, you're equipped to be a prostitute, but you're not one, are you?

The radio went silent and the interview ended. You gotta love the Marines!

General Hawley's Comments

For those who don't know General Hawley, he's a newly retired USAF 4-star general. He commanded the USAF Air Combat Command (our front line fighters and bombers). The command headquarters is at Langley AFB, Virginia. General Hawley is now retired and no longer required to be "politically correct." His short speech is very much to the point.

Since the attack, I have seen, heard, and read thoughts of such surpassing stupidity that they must be addressed. You've heard them too. Here they are:

1. "We're not good, they're not evil, everything is relative." Listen carefully: We're good, they're evil, nothing is relative. Say it with me now and free yourselves. You see, folks, saying, "We're good" doesn't mean "We're perfect." Okay? The only perfect being is the bearded guy on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. The plain fact is that our country has, with all our mistakes and blunders, always been and always will be the greatest beacon of freedom, charity, opportunity, and affection in history. If you need proof, open all the borders on earth and see what happens. In about half a day, the entire world would be a ghost town, and the United States would look like one giant line to see "The Producers."

2. "Violence only leads to more violence." This one is so stupid you usually have to be the president of any Ivy League university to say it. Here's the truth, which you know in your heads and hearts already: Ineffective, unfocused violence leads to more violence. Limp, panicky, half-measures lead to more violence. However, complete, fully thought-through, professional, well-executed violence never leads to more violence.

lence because, you see, afterwards the other guys are all dead. That's right, dead. Not "on trial," not "re-educated," not "nurtured back into the bosom of love." Dead. D-E—Well, you get the idea.

3. "The CIA and the rest of our intelligence community has failed us." For 25 years we have chained our spies like dogs to a stake in the ground, and now that the house has been robbed, we yell at them for not protecting us. Starting in the late '70s, under Carter appointee Stansfield Turner, the giant brains who get these giant ideas decided that the best way to gather international intelligence was to use spy satellites. "After all," they reasoned, "you can see a license plate from 200 miles away." This is very helpful if you've been attacked by a license plate. Unfortunately, we were attacked by humans. Finding humans is not possible with satellites. You have to use other humans. When we bought all our satellites, we fired all our humans, and here's the really stupid part—it takes years, decades to infiltrate new humans into the worst places of the world. You can't just have a guy who looks like Gary Busey in a spring break '93 sweatshirt plop himself down in a coffee shop in Kabul and say, "Hiya, boys. Gee, I sure would like to meet that bin Laden fella." Well, you can, but all you'd be doing is giving the bad guys a story they'll be telling for years.

4. "These people are poor and helpless, and that's why they're angry at us." Uh-huh, and Jeffrey Dahmer's frozen head collection was just a desperate cry for help. The terrorists and their backers are richer than Elton John and, ironically, a good less annoying. The poor helpless people, you see, are the villagers they tortured and murdered to stay in power. Mohammed Atta, one of the evil scumbags who steered those planes into the killing grounds (I'm sorry, one of the alleged hijackers,) according to CNN (they stopped using the word "terrorist," you know), is the son of a Cairo surgeon. But you knew this, too. In the '60s and '70s, all the pinheads marching against the war were upper-middle-class college kids who grabbed any cause they could think of to get out of their final papers and spend more time drinking. At least that was MY excuse. It's the same today. Take the anti-global-warming (or is it World Trade? Oh-who-knows-what-the-hell-they-want-demonstrators). They all charged their black outfits and plane tickets on dad's credit card before driving to the airport in their SUVs.

5. "Any profiling is racial profiling." Who's killing us here, the Norwegians? Just days after the attack, the *New York Times* had an article saying dozens of extended members of the gazillionaire bin Laden family living in America were afraid of reprisals and left in a huff, never to return to studying at Harvard and using too much Drakkar. I'm crushed. I think we're all crushed. Please come back. With a cherry on top? Why don't they just change their names, anyway? It's happened in the past. Think about it. How many Adolfs do you run into these days? Shortly after that, I remember watching TV with my jaw on the floor as a government official actually said, "That little old grandmother from Sioux City could be carrying something." Okay, how about this: No, she couldn't. It would never be the grandmother from Sioux City. Is it even possible? What are the odds? Winning a hundred Powerball lotteries in a row? A thousand? A million? And now a Secret Service guy has been tossed off a plane

and we're all supposed to cry about it because he's an Arab? Didn't it have the tiniest bit to do with the fact that he filled out his forms incorrectly THREE TIMES? And then left an *Afghan* history book on his seat as he strolled off the plane? And came back? Armed. Let's please all stop singing "We are the World" for a minute and think practically. I don't want to be sitting on the floor in the back of a plane four seconds away from hitting Mt. Rushmore and turn grinning, to the guy next to me to say, "Well, at least we didn't offend them."

SO HERE's what I resolve for the New Year: Never to forget our murdered brothers and sisters. Never to let the relatives get away with their immoral thinking. After all, no matter what your daughter's political science professor says, we didn't start this. Have you seen that bumper sticker that says, "No more Hiroshimas"? I wish I had one that says, "You first. No more Pearl Harbors."

Attention...Latest News Update

With heavy heart we laid to rest the brother of comrade **Mike Regan**. **William Patrick Regan**, Bill, who was also an LAPD Policeman, was 88 years young.

A little Regan family history Michael Joseph Regan (Sr.), born 9/22/1888, entered LAPD 4/19/1923, assigned to Traffic, retired IOD 8/10/1932. His son, comrade Michael Joseph Regan (Jr.), born 9/28/1917, entered LAPD 1/6/1941, assigned to Traffic, retired IOD 3/16/1963. His brother, William Patrick Regan, born 11/25/1914, entered LAPD 3/30/1937, assigned to Valley Traffic on a pilot program in 1941, retired 1962. Bill's grandson, **Chad Andrew Dellinger** is "currently" on LAPD and assigned to Valley Traffic Division.

In addition, comrade Mike's other two brothers, **John Victor Regan** was also an LAPD Policeman from 10/16/1946 to 1/15/1950 and Thomas Francis Regan who was a Los Angeles County Sheriff. May William Patrick Regan rest in peace.

The Next Meeting of Police Post 381

Our meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be April 15, 2003, at Panorama Post 817, "our home away from home," 13553 Reedley Ave., Panorama City, (818) 781-2261. The normal \$5 donation for dinner will be requested. If you were at the last meeting, we served over 20 dinners. **Richard Kalk** prepared more home-cooked food! This time it was a vegetarian pasta with chicken in a creamed celery/mushroom base. Spinach salad with honey and grapefruit, and butterscotch cake. I don't think we'll ever let him go! For information on the meeting, please call Cmdr. Richard Ledesma or maybe you should call the First Lady Elvia Ledesma at (323) 478-0934 or Adjutant Frank Ortiz at (626) 331-4271. For anything else, call (818) 992-1414, even if only to say to...I'll listen!

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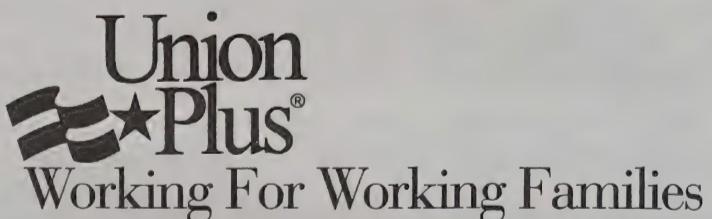
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Source: *The State of Police Education*, Carter Sapp and Stephens,
Police Executive Research Forum, 1989, PERF, Washington, D.C.

Los Angeles Police Protective League

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER

Divisional Reporter is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Divisional Reporters may submit one report per Division for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

way out West

by Jason Jacobson
West Valley Division

Officer of the Year

Better late than never, congratulations to P-3 James Marshall, #24471, for being chosen as West Valley's Officer of the Year. Those who have worked with you know that you deserve it. Keep up the great work!

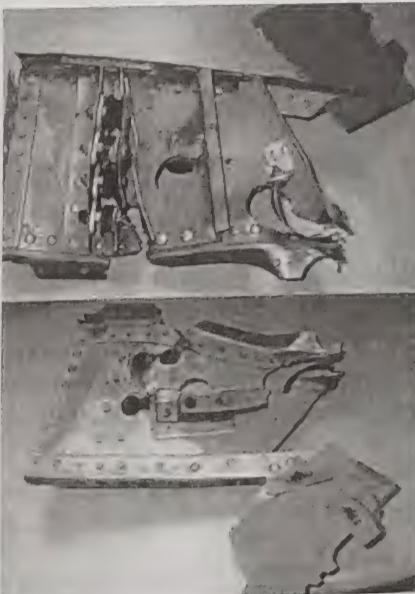
ADW With a Cobra?

P-3 Murdoch, #23509, and P-1 Park, #36056, got a bit more than expected while on a "found evidence" call on 2/21/03. The P/R (and victim) is a songwriter for a locally known, controversial recording label, and he had received a death threat by mail several months ago.

Apparently, it wasn't meant to be a joke. The victim arrived home to find a box on his front porch, mailed from Chatsworth the day before. He opened the box and observed foam packing "peanuts," from which he then saw the head of a snake appear! The victim closed the box immediately and sealed it again before calling P.D. Officers Murdoch and Park contacted animal control, who took control of and later identified the snake as a South African Spitting Cobra. They later informed the officers the only reason why the deadly poisonous snake did not attempt to bite or spit its venom was due to a small abscess on the back of its neck. Close call, guys!

Shuttle Debris Found in San Bernardino

Several days after the unfortunate shuttle disaster, P-2 Arroyo, #35434, received a call of found evidence in Woodland Hills. The P/R stated he had been visiting his property in San Bernardino, where he found metal debris he believed to be pieces of the Columbia space shuttle. He brought the pieces back to his Woodland Hills home



and called P.D. Arroyo took custody of the debris and observed metal screws on the side of one piece with "NASA" imprinted on them. She contacted NASA and was given instructions for shipment of the pieces back to NASA's headquarters for analysis.

Group GTA Caper

P-2 Ferris, #35801, had his work cut

out for him when he worked a U-boat on 3/2/03. Around 0230 he observed three brand new Ford Mustangs cruising together on Topanga Canyon Blvd. When they turned on to Gault, he began to follow them to investigate. Two of the three Mustangs took off at a high rate of speed, but he conducted a traffic stop on the third car. Seeing the vehicle had paper plates and no purchase sticker on the windshield, he requested an additional unit. 10A67 with P-3 Woods, #26352, and P-1 Lopez, #36231, arrived and checked the VIN in AWWS, which returned stolen. The suspect was hooked up, then a vehicle search was conducted. Several clothing items and skateboard equipment, all with sales tags still attached, were recovered and booked as evidence. VTD was contacted, and it was discovered that three Mustangs had been stolen from Galpin Ford on 2/26/03. Great job, guys!

Baker to Vegas '03

Best of luck to all runners participating in the 2003 Challenge Cup Relay. Thanks to P-3 McGee, #31677, for his work as West Valley's Baker to Vegas coordinator.

First to Know, Last to Go!

Department Command Post & Communications Div.

by Lt. Chuck Mealey
Department Command Post and Communications Division

Sergeant II Matt Mulvihill, an Assistant Watch Commander at Communications Division has been activated for assignment as a master gunny



(l-r) Lt Gloria Vargas, PSR Rudy Vasquez, PSR Rosemary Arroyo, and PSR Kimberly Fairfax bid safe journey to Sgt. Matt Mulvihill.

sergeant with the U.S. Marines. A going away potluck and ceremony sent our well respected supervisor off to his military assignment. He would welcome a note (no packages please) at: (MSgt Matthew Mulvihill, I MEF CE 3rd CAG, UIC 43601 BOX 0001, FPO AP 96613-0001. Sergeant Mulvihill spent many years as a motor officer prior

to his Communications assignment.

Welcome

We welcome to Communications Sergeant Adam O'Neil from Pacific Beach Detail, and Officers R. Aguinaga (from Pacific) and C. Carias (from Wilshire) to the Department Command Post.

Good Bye

We say farewell to Lt Eric Coulter (to ICSB); Police Officer Sean Laule (to CTD) and Officer Michael Brose (to North Hollywood).

Communications Division will be celebrating National Dispatchers Week from April 14 to 18. In 1992 President George Bush proclaimed the second

The World Class Police Department LAPD

RECRUITMENT RHETORIC

by Officer Mark L. Horton
Recruitment Section

Expo

On Saturday, Feb. 22, 2003, the Crenshaw Christian Center hosted their Black History Expo & Festival. There were approximately 8,000+ that came out and attended the event. One hundred and twenty-five candidates took the written exam, and several hundred expressed an interest in LAPD and filled out our tracking list. Among some of the attendees was Police Chief Bratton who went by each display booth and shook hands with each individual officer.

Don't Forget

If you are referring a candidate to become a police officer, you are eligible

for a \$500 recruitment incentive. Be aware the candidates need to have it completed and filled out before they take the written exam. The incentive card needs to be filled out completely front and back. In addition the candidate needs to make it through the eight-step testing process. Good luck and happy recruiting. \$\$\$

Who is This Recruit?

It appears that this recruit is deep in thought and has deployed a special tac-



tic. Could it be called the "make them think that I am asleep tactic"? Inquiring minds want to know who this recruit is and where he is now.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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by Sgt. Andrew Garcia
Hollywood Division

Helloooooo Hollywood!

Anti-War Demonstration

What can I say, "Wow, what a day!" I was at the beginning of the demonstration with Capt. Michael Downing and Capt. Patrick Findley. I think all of us were a little taken back by how large the crowd was. Capt. Downing said, "I am very proud of all the officers' hard work, there was not one report of vandalism or property damage! Great job!" Capt. Findley said, "All the LAPD officers showed great professionalism. I am very proud of the men and women of this Department!"

I want to give a very special thanks to Sgt. Glen Hees and Sgt. Michael Ventura. Their hard work and great planning made the entire operation run very smooth!

A Story of Strength and Courage

This is a story that is hard for me to write, because of the heartbreaking circumstances. It seems that John Weist is suffering from terminal cancer. He is from Minnesota and one of his dreams is to be a Los Angeles Police Officer.

Senior Lead Officer Mike Shea and his son Jason picked up John and his father Kevin at LAX on Friday night. On



John Weist.



Mike and John.



Jason Shea and John Weist.

Saturday they visited Air Support Division, Communications Division, the Police Academy, and had a demonstration by Narcotics K-9. The last part of the day they drove all the way up to the Hollywood sign. The local businesses chipped in with dinner at Trastevere restaurant, tickets to the Wax and Ripley's Believe It Or Not Museum. The Chinese Theater donated two tickets to any movie that night. On Sunday morning he returned them to LAX for their flight home to MN.

Mike said that John was very happy and excited to live his dream.

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

I received this e-mail; I thought I would pass it on to all of you:

I am writing to you all to ask for your help in a mission that is crucially important to me and my family. After losing my mother to Lymphoma cancer in September, 2002, my family and I joined the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's fight against blood-related cancers. We are committed to raising awareness of these diseases and helping to fund research that will one day yield a cure.

To that end, my family and I are riding in the Solvang Century Bike Ride on March 8, 2003. Our goal is to raise \$5,000 for two small children (Dylan 11, Catherine 4) who are actively fighting leukemia. We have \$2,000 left to go. We are committed to doing all we can to spare them from the pain and suffering my mother experienced during her fight against cancer. With adequate support,

these children stand a better chance of beating this insidious disease.

As a proud member of the LAPD family, I would sincerely appreciate any donation you can make. Any donation will make a big difference. Donations are tax deductible and may save thousands of men, women, and children who will be diagnosed with blood-related cancers this year.

Checks can be made payable to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and dropped off with the W/C or me. Credit card donations can also be made via a form available from Sgt. Humphries. Cash is always good too, and you'll get a receipt for your taxes.

In memory of my mother, and on behalf of those still enduring this illness, I thank you for your consideration and generosity.

-Sgt. Cliff Humphries/LAPD Hollywood Area Station.

Correction

Okay I admit it. I am new to this newspaper writing stuff, and I will make mistakes once in a while. I received a correction for Lt. Don Schwartzer. I worked for Don when he was a sergeant in Metro. Needless to say, he is a stickler for details.

During the Deputy David Powell funeral, I mentioned that the command officer that was seated with Lt. Schwartzer was Cmdr. Betty Kelepecz. Well, Cmdr. Kelepecz was there. However, it was Capt. Nancy Lauer who sat with Lt. Schwartzer and the troops.

Stay safe, 6Z20!

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



Pacific Breeze

by Det. Lynn Hunter
Pacific Breeze Division

Thanks again to my staff, **April Carter** and **Mark Pompano** for their help. Okay, do you remember two months ago when Mark Pompano got roasted because he went on vacation and didn't leave me the information on the roastee we had planned? And do you remember who furnished the dirt for Mark's roast? Well, guess who this month's roastee is! (And guess who furnished the dirt!) Lt. **Mossler** pointed out to me last month that he knows payback is a b—, but to remember that he's a lieutenant. Okay, with all due respect, Lieutenant, Sir, here it is!

Born at Cedars Sinai Hospital in Beverly Hills, California, the city boundaries must have been different way back then. Dick attended Webster Junior High School. His classmates facetiously voted him most likely to succeed—at growing up to be homeless! His future wife, Judy, also attended Webster, but thought he was going nowhere in life, as did his teachers. Dick's report cards often read A for average, followed by two Ss for satisfactory.

Dick's reputation as a "ladies man" resonated through the Westside grapevine. Local legend has it that Dick made it a daily ritual to drive his yellow 1966 Chevelle up and down Military Avenue, while the neighborhood girls chased after him on foot. Dick worked at Kinney Shoes as a shoe salesman (i.e., Al Bundy). Dick's girlfriend at the time,



9. According to Judy, Dick is a devoted family man, who has repudiated all his previous vices except for water skiing. Although Judy knows that Dick loves her, she is concerned with the amount of time that he and Officer **Kelly Crispens** (WLA) have been spending together as of late. Want to respond to that, WLA?

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Linda Steinberg, who to this day still visits him at Pacific Station, was not amused by her little Dickie's actions!

While returning home one day, Judy was pulled over by an LAPD black and white with emergency lights. In her rearview mirror, Judy watched as a Jimmy Durante-looking officer approached her window. Judy thought, "I can't believe this guy is a police officer!" She asked, "Why did you stop me?" Dick replied, "I saw you coming down the hill and I just wanted to say hi!" Some may construe this as turning an on-duty contact into an off-duty relationship, but Dick was just ahead of his time in community-based policing.

Love blossomed. Dick and Judy were married in 1979 and made their home in Brentwood. They are the proud parents of four children: Alison, 20; Scott, 17; and twins Kelly and Shannon.

PIIs **Danny Odom**, **Paul Aeschliman**, and **Luis Topete**. Pacific Detectives know that if we ask them to arrest somebody we'd better have the report completed. Though they only worked as the CCD for seven months last year, they made almost 100 felony arrests, 30 parolee arrests, and wrote 263 FIs, as well as huge numbers of the smaller stuff. They are so productive we couldn't get by without them.

This month we got some good people in. And some good people left us. Au revoir to PIII **Michael Thompson** who made Sgt. 1 and is going to Van Nuys. PIIs **Jerry Perry**(!) went to MSD and **Jonathan Britton** went to West L.A. PIIs **Chris Zine** went to HWD, and **Ryan Dease**, **Robert Gowan**, and **Eric Holguin** all went to SE. We surreptitiously took this photograph of Dease on



his way to SE. Almost everybody coming in to Pacific is a promotion! Sgt. 2 **Tina Nieto** to Lt. 1; PII **Scott Murachver** to Sgt. 1; PIII **Chris Dutton** to Sgt. 1; and Sgt. 1 **Tim Jones** to DI. DII **Andrea Lucie** went to Sgt. 1.

became a teacher, then decided to pursue a career in Law Enforcement. Congratulations to Officers **Alonso Menchaca #36178** (Devonshire), **Patty Chica #36371** (West LA), and **Kate Lopez #36385** (West Valley). We'll miss each of you, and wish you the best in

NoHo news

by Angie Hougen
North Hollywood Division

PALS Golf Tournament

Fundraising has never been more fun. Our annual golf tournament filled both courses at the Braemar Country Club in Reseda. Over 200 golfers enjoyed the day, as well as the prime rib and great prizes. Several businesses adopted several of our officers, so they could enjoy the day on the course as well. Some of our "adoptees" included: Chili Vasquez, Ed Brentlinger, Mike Jensen, Mike and Margie Coffey, Larry Burns, Brad Johnson, Mike Lewis, Andrew Nieman, Reuben Derma, Ray Espinosa, Dave Carter, Tim Leonard, and Doug Humphrey. All the money raised goes to our PALS causes, including the Explorers, DAPS, and Holiday food programs.

From North Hollywood Explorers to Academy Graduates

We've had three former Explorers join the Department recently. One started as a 6-year-old Junior DAP, one joined the Explorers at fourteen, and continued until she was 21 (graduating from Valley College along the way), and the final one, graduated from CSUN,



Ed Brentlinger sprays the construction equipment in front of our station. PACE never rests! your careers.

The Stork's been busy here....

As of this writing, the Fourniers were at the hospital welcoming their new little daughter Megan Kay Fournier. At least they told us she was a girl by their ultrasounds. And since they didn't call back before noon, we are assuming she's a girl. But if Megan's actually Michael our apologies....Congratulations to Brenda and **Dan Fournier #33387**. Also, our January officer of the month, became a daddy the following month. Noah Miguel Mejia was born on February 17. Everyone is doing well, and we hope to get pictures into upcoming articles. Congratulations to Jayne and **Miguel Mejia #34655**.

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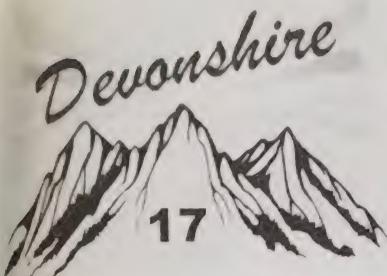
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Retired LAPD
Rampart Detectives



by Sgt. Rudy Santos
Devonshire Happenings

Another Death in the Big City

On January 25, 2003, at 0630 hours, my phone rang at home. On the other end of the line was my Area Commanding Officer, Capt. Joseph Curreri. Two things have happened when a captain calls one of his sergeants at home on a Saturday morning. One, someone in my unit got killed, or two, someone was in trouble. The captain informed me that two of our Explorers had gotten killed in a shooting. He recognized one of the individual's names but didn't know who the other one was. I phoned one of my YSOs, Officer Ingrid Langrehr, and responded to the station. Ingrid and I then responded to the homicide scene on Columbus Avenue, an area of Devonshire riddled

with gangs and narcotics. We observed the bullet-riddled body of former Devonshire Explorer Steve Perez. He was still seated in the passenger seat of his friend's car. The other individual who had been killed did not turn out to be an Explorer. Instead, he was an acquaintance of Perez. Det. Orlando Martinez was busy collecting evidence and conducting the investigation. Ingrid and I could do nothing but survey the scene and take in the picture that was before us. Officers were busy maintaining the perimeter and interviewing witnesses. One was maintaining the crime scene log. The photographer from SID was busy clicking away at evidence and pertinent items that the detective pointed out. In all, it was like a well choreographed play, with everyone knowing what to do and the two lifeless bodies in the background waiting to be taken away by the coroner and to later be given a respectful burial. Whatever the circumstances that led to the shooting were, the fact remained that a young man was killed who once wore the uniform of Explorer Post 660. The scene I observed was like many that happen every day in the City of Angels. A shot rings out, a life is taken, a family is left grieving, and the only justice the victim sees in this world is the dedicated job that is done by the men and women of this Department.

The individual responsible for the shooting should have known that his time on the streets as a free man was limited. On the case were some of the most professional and knowledgeable detectives this Department has. Working with Det. Martinez was his partner, Det. Craig Sacha. Using their superior investigative skills and working closely with Devonshire gang units, they arrested the shooter on Feb. 20. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's office filed on the suspect for 187 P.C.

Perez was buried in his Explorer uniform.

Final judgment of the murderer will of course come at a later date, in another place, and by a higher source.

Our First Aid Training Saves a Life

Recently, an incident occurred in the Community Relations Office that made us all thank the fact that we have received first aid training by the Department. Officer Robert "Sarge, you're ruining my reserve unit" Lequin was seated at his desk when we noticed that he suddenly slumped in his chair with his upper body and arms hanging over the chair's armrest towards the floor. Immediately, we concluded that he had suffered from a usual attack of Forgetaneous Howtoitious Breathatus. This extremely rare disease affects 1 in

200,000,000 people in the United States. Almost instantly, we sprang into action to save the life of Devonshire's Reserve Coordinator of the Year, Officer Dan Slater, a former Special Forces medic, led the effort to revive Bob and we carefully followed his instructions. We carefully laid Bob on the floor face up. Dan then stood on Bob's chest and jumped up and down. I grabbed Bob's right big forearm and began to squeeze it to pump blood to his head. Officer Emigdio Neri lit a cigarette and placed it in Bob's mouth. Officer Sid Gonzalez and Officer Elizabeth Sandoval each grabbed one of Bob's legs and began bending and straightening them to get the blood circulating. And finally, Officer Ingrid Langrehr applied a tourniquet to Bob's neck to control the flow of blood to the brain. After five minutes of working on Bob, he came to. We knew he was back to normal when the first words out of his mouth were, "Where are my glasses?" We told him they were hanging around his neck. With that, he put his glasses on and went back to computing the hours that only one of his Line Reserves had worked in a six-month period. We gave each other high fives for having saved the life of a fellow officer.

18 SOUTHEAST

by El Payaso
Southeast Division

Eagle Eye Coppers

On Feb. 12, 2003, a black male, posing as a stranded motorist, knocked on the door of a 60-year-old woman and her husband. When the victim answered the door, the suspect asked if he could borrow a cup so he could pour gasoline into his vehicle. When the victim returned to the door with the cup, the suspect forced

his way into the house at gunpoint.

After gaining the couple's compliance, the "dirt bag" ordered the husband into the bedroom where he ordered him to stay. Now that he was alone with the victim, the suspect ordered the victim to disrobe and lie down on the floor, which she did out of fear for her life and that of her husband. This coward then raped and sexually assaulted the 60-year-old victim. Southeast Officers Manning and Garces answered the call and were able to get a description of the suspect and his vehicle.

The next morning, Officers Manning and Garces were patrolling in the area of 149th Street and Menlo Avenue when they observed a vehicle matching the description of the suspect's vehicle and being driven by a black male who, like his vehicle, matched the suspect's physical description.

Our heroes immediately swung into

action! They quickly got behind the vehicle to conduct an investigative stop. When they were ready, Officers Manning and Garces activated their vehicle's emergency lights. When they did, the suspect quickly stopped his vehicle, bailed out and ran into a nearby business where he tried to hide himself and the gun he was carrying. Not to be outdone, the "Dynamic Duo" quickly gave chase, located the scum bucket and took him!

The victim and a witness later positively identified the suspect. And that there is one man who won't see freedom for a while. Good job, guys!

Special Thanks

Thank you very much to all of Southeast Division for "stepping up to

the plate" to help Officer Jim Jimenez and his family during what has to be the roughest time any family could ever go through. Especially those of you who organized special events, such as the golf tournament and barbecues to help a brother officer in need.

Quick Notes

Be sure to buy yourself a Southeast Division Running Team t-shirt! All the proceeds will be used to fund the running team in the Baker to Vegas Relay. Be sure to see Officer Sonny Garcia to own one of your very own!

If you have something you'd like to see printed in the *Blue Line*, whether it's a hot caper or newborn baby, let me know and I'll be happy to write about it.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Sgt. Stephanie Krajcir
West Traffic Division

Ins and Outs

Welcome to Robert Powers in from Pacific Division and Reserve Officer A. Gower in from West L.A.

Congratulations

P2 Kelley Montgomery is the proud mother of a healthy baby boy, Greysen Myles, born February 19, 7 lbs, 4 oz. Kelley and baby are doing fine. Greg is still recuperating.

Priority Re-examination of Driver

Officer JoAnne Anthony conducted

a simple traffic stop for a "no left turn between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m." violation. Upon advising the driver of the sign and his subsequent violation, he (a 75-year-old male) stated that he lived a block down the road but was not aware of this sign on his corner. Anthony was curious as to why he was not if he drove this way home all the time. The driver responded by asking the officer, "Are there anymore signs I need to be aware of, Officer? Because I can't read any of them." His 100-year-old mother as rear passenger slapped him on the head saying, "I told you so!" Only in L.A.

Twenty-five Cent Word of the Day

What is a "phlebotomist"? (Answer below.)

Special Recognition

Special recognition goes to our fabulous Reserve Unit (35 strong):

Line Officers Alan Donovan, Damon Willens, Kerry Anderson, Doug Pell, Gene Janecko, Kevin Pulsipher, Joe Fazekas, Frank Tavelman, Jim Tsarofski, Donald

Sbini, and Robert Gower.

Tech Officers Christine Castro, Dennis Churchill, Cheryl Gifis, Shirley McCallum, Gary Kennedy, Joe Morris, John Lee, Henry Casteneda, and Barry Posner.

Specialists Phil Barton, Gale Beck, Steve Castiff, John Fochtman, Fred Wilson, Steve Getz, Gene Lichtenstein, John Mulhollen, Eva Olip, Robert Olip, Kim Segal, Maxine Zewiey, Gerald Nezu, Robert Jones and Marc Cohen.

P.O. 2+2 Dan Gregg has done a super job keeping the unit busy with details such as ped stings and Os and Ps. Starting DP2, WTD implemented the "TF" car and is the first division to do so. TF cars are somewhat like "U boats," but for traffic calls only. We've all heard the RTO assign a traffic call to patrol, or outside the division or even bureau. This entity should reduce this occurrence.

The TF cars are led by R/O John Lee and coordinated through Dan Gregg. The TF car is staffed by trained Reserves in plain clothes and in a plain car. Its purpose is to handle simple hit and run calls, complained of pain T/Cs, and simple CPI traffics. The TF car will reduce response time, enhancing service to the community. At major crashes the TF

cars will assume a support role for the primary unit by obtaining measurements, witness statements, or handle traffic control.

WTD has seven Reserves that have completed Basic CT school. No other traffic division has sent Reserves to this 40-hour school. WTD Reserves are the most active in the Department. Last year (2002) our Reserves impounded over 1,000 vehicles for registration violations and the ped stings generated 3,100 citations. In fact, one impound resulted in the arrest of a 187 suspect who went to the tow yard to claim his vehicle using marked bills. Great job, guys!

In addition to our Reserves, we have 12 volunteers who support our efforts during those special details. Marks, Alper, Akazawa, Guylekjian, Stublings, Weinberg, Stirling, Reilly, Snyder, Howard, Curwen, and Jones. Thanks for all your help!

Lastly, congratulations to Steve Getz for being WTD's Reserve Officer of the Year for 2002!

Answer to 25 cent word: a medical technician whose sole job is to draw blood—for you DUI experts!!

What About Wilshire?

by Sgt. "Bobby" Smith
Wilshire Division

Police Commission Honors Volunteers

On Tuesday, January 28, 2003, three of our community volunteers were awarded the Police Commission's award for their determined and heroic efforts that resulted in the arrest of a serial rapist.

President Rick Caruso, on behalf of the Police Commission, presented the award to Chaim Kolodny, Avrohom Matyas, Shmuel Manne and Moshe

Lazar at Parker Center. Mr. Caruso thanked the volunteers for their efforts and praised their activities in the community. All four men are members of Hatzolah of Los Angeles, a volunteer emergency rescue team that serves the Beverly/La Brea area.

Heightened Security

In light of current world events and heightened security measures, our communities have looked to us for leadership and assistance. In response, we established liaisons with our foreign consulates, synagogues and public private schools to reduce tensions and fears.

Community Support Par Excellence

A group that has supported our efforts the past 32 years is the Wilshire Community Police Council (WCPC). A nonprofit corporation comprised of our community members, the WCPC provides the entire budget for the area's youth programs, including the Explorer (ages 14

to 20) and Deputy Auxiliary Police (ages 9 to 13) programs. It also provides funding of station improvements outside the Department's budget, including numerous items that have enhanced our ability to administer programs and provide quality service to our communities.

Last year the WCPC purchased a 72-passenger bus used to transport our youth. It also purchased a SMART Board interactive computer projection screen to provide our officers updated, real-time crime information during roll calls.

On Wednesday, April 9, 2003, the WCPC will host a recognition dinner honoring our Officer of the Year, Reserve Officer of the Year, and Community Member of the Year for 2002.

For additional information about the WCPC and its activities, please contact our Community Relations Section at (213) 473-0200.

Neighborhood Councils

At present, six (10%) of the 60 Neighborhood Councils are located in our

communities. Our officers have been encouraged to attend meetings and events to promote dialogue and information sharing in an effort to gain insights into concerns and priorities of our communities.

Noteworthy Caper

On Thursday, February 6, 2003, Officer Spiro Roditis and Probationary Officer John Carlyle checked a vehicle license and learned it had a misdemeanor warrant. After the vehicle abruptly pulled to the curb, they conducted a traffic stop to investigate the warrant. They detained the driver for a suspended driver's license. Officer Carlyle conducted a pat-down search and found \$1,200 in the driver's rear pants pocket. During a subsequent inventory search of the vehicle, Officer Roditis observed two magnetic "hide-a-key" boxes on the center console with 124 small plastic baggies containing cocaine. The driver was arrested and booked for possession of narcotics for sale.

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by Maria C. Marquez
77th Street Division

Code 4 Suspect in Custody

On March 1, 2003, at approximately 0230 hours, Sgt. II **Pete Casey**, quietly performing his duties as the AWC, heard some serious yelling resembling terror in report writing room A. As he rose to his feet to see what was the matter, P3 **Rich Coates** knew that somehow his assistance would be needed as the "W3 Superhero" and also ran towards the clatter.

As they entered the report room, there were many officers yelling about a certain creature that had somehow found its way into the 300 WIC room. The officers had managed to secure this 2-1/2 foot long rat which had no problem in

baring his massive teeth to whomever chose to get in his way. The opening up of the door and forcing this criminal to run back outside was not a popular remedy, according to the screams of fellow officers (I know who you are). And so enters "W3 Superhero Coates". Rich demonstrated extreme courage and dedication and entered the room armed with only a coffee can, since an OIS on a rat would be more drama than one dead rat deserves! Rich left no toy unturned as the suspect attempted to evade him. But Rich has dealt with some of the biggest of the rats here in 77th. When he comes face-to-face with this culprit, Coates goes into motion and he manages to capture this suspect, never once taking his own safety into consideration. So brave, courageous and compassionate too because he let the "dirty stinking rat" go. You're the man, Sir, but then again you always have been in my book!

An Athlete for the Month

Officer **Tom Redshaw** is our athlete of the month due to his continual training for various departmental events. Tom continually trains and conditions himself for the Bench Press Contest and Baker to Vegas events that benefit this

division.

In doing so, he allows himself the opportunity to be in the best possible shape to perform his duties as a police officer dedicated to apprehending gang members responsible for the gang-related crimes within this division. He has recovered 13 firearms and arrested and booked more than an equal number of armed suspects. Not only is he an excellent athlete but also an outstanding police officer. Congratulations, Tom!

A Gang of Angels

On February 28, 2003, Officers **Carlos Gonzales** and **Andrew Parades** were enroute to C-7 when they observed a female on the roadway giving medical aid to a fairly young child. As the officers stopped to assist, they observed that the one-year-old child (Fredrick) was not breathing. Officer Gonzales was able to clear the baby's airway from mucous and was successful in clearing the child's tongue from his airway, which prompted the child's breathing.

Parades had to focus his attention on a distraught mother who eventually collapsed and quickly became incapacitated as well. With two medical emergencies now before them, the necessary

medical assistance was requested and these two officers continued to maintain their composure and attention to duty.

Within minutes Gardena Police Officers (**Victor Gomez/Brian Messina**) arrived on scene and advised Carlos and Andy that Gardena Memorial Hospital was just down the block. Carlos handed the now breathing baby to these officers, who quickly transported him to the hospital. The mother regained her composure and requested to be transported to Gardena Memorial so she could be with her baby. Gonzales and Parades transported the mother to the hospital.

Emergency room personnel advised that had it not been for the immediate actions by these officers, Fredrick would have died. He was very ill and suffered from a high fever, which led to a seizure, disallowing his ability to breathe. Congratulations on a job well done.

The year is going by fast and the Easter holiday is upon us. Our best wishes from your brothers and sisters at 77th for a safe and joyous holiday. Stay safe!



Northeast corner

by Susan Loera
Northeast Division

Baker 2 Vegas

This year's Northeast team is a brawny squad. The runners have been trained and preparing for the race. Sgt. **Art Sandoval** and Det. **Jose Carrillo** have put together a strong team of robust athletes. As of March 4, 2003, the top three 10K times were: Sgt. **A. Lopez**, 39:52 minutes; Officer **R. Morales**, 42:20 minutes; and Officer **G. Loza**, 43:53 minutes. The other running times are not too shabby either.

Commendable Cappers (Caper #1)

Detective **Ramirez** received information regarding a series of burglaries that occurred in the dorms of Occidental College. Ramirez initiated an investigation and located witnesses. Ramirez was able to identify two suspects involved in the burglaries. Ramirez prepared a Crime Alert Bulletin and disseminated the information to Northeast Patrol and Detectives.

Dets. **Sutton** and **Stephenson** gathered additional information on the suspects while discussing the case with Det. Ramirez. Dets. Sutton and Stephenson located the suspects and interviewed them regarding the burglaries. The suspects eventually admitted to being involved in over 100 burglaries from



Det. Stephenson and Det. Sutton hard at detecting.

semination of "real time information."

Dets. Sutton and Stephenson are commended for investigative skills and outstanding interview and interrogation skills resulting in the recovery of stolen property and the dissemination of vital information to other law enforcement entities.

Due to the outstanding work and dedication of these detectives, two active crime predators are off the streets, and their crime spree has come to an end.

Caper #2

On February 12, 2003, at approximately 7:00 p.m., Officers **Duarte** and **Marinelli** were assigned to the Northeast Area Highland Park footbeat. Their primary duty was to combat grand theft auto and burglary from motor vehicles.

The officers were patrolling in the area of Kirby Street and Ruby Street. They observed a gray Honda Accord

traveling down the street with no license plates. The officers initiated a traffic stop for the earlier mentioned violations in the area of Meridian Street and Kirby Street.

It was determined through questioning that the driver did not have a driver's license nor did he have the vehicle registration. The officers checked the vehicle status by way of the vehicle identification number. The vehicle returned as a reported stolen from West Valley Division. The suspect was placed under arrest for car theft.

The officers are commended for their attention to duty, observation and investigative skills and their commitment to combat crime that plagues the Northeast Area and the city of Los Angeles.

Caper #3

On January 30, 2003, at approximately 6:45 p.m., Officers **Martinez**, #33258, and **Tojong**, #27088, assigned basic car 11A51, received a radio call, "robbery suspect there now" at 1185 N. Vermont Avenue. The comments stated that the suspect was an Hispanic male, 45 years old, wearing a gray shirt and

gray pants, still in front of the location.

Officers responded immediately and observed the suspect who matched the description in front of a stairway near the business. The suspect observed the officers approaching and began to run westbound on Lexington Avenue. The officers went in foot pursuit and as the suspect was attempting to escape, he tripped and fell to the pavement. The suspect was detained for a robbery investigation. As the officers were walking the suspect back to their black-and-white police vehicle, the victim of the robbery started pointing at the suspect and positively identified him as the one who struck her with a metal cane and hit her with his fist. During the investigation, the officers recovered a metal cane from the pavement where the suspect had fallen down when he was attempting to flee.

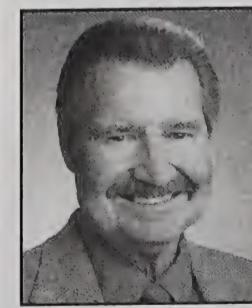
Officers are commended for their attention to duty, tenacious work habits, and teamwork that led to the successful arrest of a robbery suspect.



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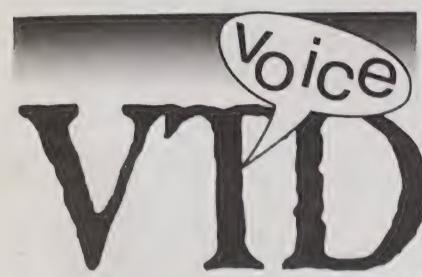
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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Sgt. Ken Buscarino
Valley Traffic Division

Classmates

After over 28 years on the LAPD, four classmates find themselves assigned to VTD. Lt. Rich Ackerman, #20943, Sgt. II Paul Modrell, #20975, Sgt. I Ken Buscarino, #20949, and P.O.



8-74 Classmates.

III Garry Kingsland, #20969, all work Valley Traffic. Rich Ackerman has worked many assignments including Central, W. Valley Vice, IAG and the Chief's office. He is married to a retired LAPD officer, Lt. II Leslee Ackerman (Barnett), and they have two teenage sons. Paul Modrell has worked patrol and traffic with an extensive background in traffic. He has been married to Lynda for nearly 30 years. They were married one year prior to his academy start date. Paul and Lynda have five

side kudos go to P.O. 2+2 Gregory Fuqua who will be receiving a special award for over 400 DUI arrests in one year and on the C.I. side P.O. II Harvey Freeman for 120 arrests during a one-year period. Recently P.O. II Brian McClary received awards and was honored by the L.A. City Council for making over 1,000 DUI arrests during his career. McClary will also be honored at the MADD awards for his number of DUI arrests in 2002.

lowing folks: from South Bureau was Det. 3 Maurice Graham; southbound on the coastline from Pacific Division was Sgt. I Bart Landsman; and lastly, from the Academy was P-1 Christopher Ornelas. Welcome. Good luck, and congratulations to each and every one of you!

Baby News

The families are growing in the Southern Tip with some new arrivals and happy parents. First, let's congratulate P-2 Doug Klinzing and his wife, Jennifer, for the arrival of Emilia Rose. Emilia was born Feb. 11, 2003, at 1230 hrs, weighing in at 7 lbs, 4 oz., and measuring in at 19 inches. Next, cheers to P-3 Dan Jenkins and his wife Marlo, for the arrival of a brand new baby girl. The beautiful Charlotte Ray Jenkins was born Feb. 18, 2003, at 2301 hours, weighing in at 8 lbs, 4 oz., and measuring 20 inches long. Lastly, congrats to P-2 Criselda and Jason Pedro (P-3 at HOBK). On Feb. 18, 2003, at 2308 hours, they became the proud parents of

Movers and Groovers

Transfer Order No. 3 is hot off the press, and here are the results: leaving the tranquil waters of the Harbor was P-3 Paul Rodriguez, who upgraded to Sgt. I at Central Traffic Division; headed further up the coastline was P-3 John Martin, now at Pacific Division; gone a few floors under to work Communications Division was P-2 Candace Duke; and of course, upgraded and remaining here with us in the Southern Tip was Det. I Dave Cortez, now a supervisor Det. 2. Coming into the Harbor were the fol-

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Retirement

P.O. II Dan Hartman recently retired after nearly 29 years on the department. Dan had worked Traffic for many years and will be missed. Dan has settled into the "good Arizona life."

Military

VTD has two officers that are on long-term military deployment. P.O. II M. Graham is deployed to the mid-east in the Coast Guard. P.O. II B. Verna is stationed stateside in the Air Force. At your next visit to Van Nuys Division please come and check out our "Halls of Fame." We have some old time LAPD photos and we recently added two new shadow boxes. The shadow boxes include photos of VTD military veterans and one of our MADD awards. These shadow boxes were organized, constructed and placed by motor officer P.O. II Lou Medrano.

Long Term IOD and Sick

Unfortunately VTD has a hospitalized motor sergeant (as of this writing). Sergeant I+II Larry Taylor has been in and out of Kaiser Hospital with gall bladder and pancreas problems. P.O. II Creighton Dawson is off recovering from a motorcycle accident. Creighton had 20 percent of his body burned. Fortunately he is out of the burn ward and now recovering at home. Creighton faithfully attends his therapy three to four times a week to increase his hand and leg dexterity. We are anticipating a complete recovery and return to full duty in the near future. P.O. II Walter Jimison is also homebound with a back injury. He had a back fusion surgery at the end of February. Officers D. Perry, S. Plunkett, J. Hahn and M. Brady are also at home recovering from injuries. VTD also has other officers that are long term IOD. We wish all of our officers speedy recoveries and hope to see them back to work and full duty soon!

Births

VTD officers and their spouses had five births during the month of January. Manuel and Brandy (P-2 NHWD)



Baby Christian Arzate.

Arzate had a boy whom they named Christian. Christian arrived on New Year's Day and weighed in at 7 lbs/8 oz. Tony and Denise Hotchkiss had a girl whom they named Emma Victoria. Emma also arrived on New Year's Day and was the very first New Year baby to arrive in Antelope Valley. Emma weighed in at 7 lbs/11 oz. Trasia Barnes and Carlos Figueira (P-2 Van Nuys) had a girl whom they named



Baby Francisca Figueira.

Francisca Figueira. Francisca was born Jan. 14 and weighed in at 8 lbs/10 oz. Bill and Meg McConnell had a boy whom they named Christopher. Ken and Ellen Moore also had a daughter.

VTD officers continue to work very hard. This is evident in our recent stats. Our A and K injuries were down considerably and our DUI arrests were up considerably.

of us can continue to live with freedom. I doubt that we can ever put into words the amount of gratitude those of us who remain here in our normal lives all feel. The courage and greatness displayed by all the men and women in the armed forces is indeed immeasurable.

While on the forefront, let's try to keep in mind that we must do our part to help keep things secure here. Yeah, there's gonna be station security on the roofs and gates of the various stations, bridge duties, special building duties, etc. We may have to make changes to accommodate the ever changing world situation. Just remember flexibility and adaptability. It makes things go smoother for all of us.

Always remember our brothers and sisters in blue, as well as the civilian folks who suddenly became military personnel, that are in a foreign country, far from home and family, when we get stuck on the roofs, gates, bridges, or some other unusual location. Remember them in our daily lives and send a prayer their way, to keep them all safe and secure. Remind yourself how lucky you are, to be in home territory. And, of course, as always, remember to be safe, be sound, be smart, and (if possible) keep on dancing.

Southern Tip

by Cumbia Cop
Harbor Division

Movers and Groovers

Transfer Order No. 3 is hot off the press, and here are the results: leaving the tranquil waters of the Harbor was P-3 Paul Rodriguez, who upgraded to Sgt. I at Central Traffic Division; headed further up the coastline was P-3 John Martin, now at Pacific Division; gone a few floors under to work Communications Division was P-2 Candace Duke; and of course, upgraded and remaining here with us in the Southern Tip was Det. I Dave Cortez, now a supervisor Det. 2. Coming into the Harbor were the fol-



by Marie Kardiban
Central Area Division

This month's issue is dedicated to Central personnel who were honored at the Central City Police Booster's "Police Recognition Day." The luncheon and awards ceremony was held at the Wilshire Grand on February 27th. Assistant Chief Jim McDonnell was the main speaker with almost 200 Police personnel and community members attending. Central personnel were recognized for their outstanding commitment, dedication and service to the Central downtown area for the year 2002. Congratulations to all the recipients for a job well done!!!!.

Central Honorees

Civilian Employee of the Year

Marilyn Mack

Supervisor of the Year

Sgt. James MacDonald

Police Officer III of the Year

Juan Guerra

Police Officer II of the Year

Beth Jenkins

Detective of the Year

Patricia Hauck

Volunteer of the Year

Kristina Olson

Outstanding Community Service Award

Senior Lead Officer Randall McCain

Central Area Civilian Employee of the Year: Clerk Typist Marilyn Mack

Marilyn is assigned to the Central Area Patrol Captain's Office. She is a conscientious, knowledgeable employee and a multi-talented individual who han-



Civilian Marilyn Mack

dles various tasks in the office. Marilyn wears many "hats" and her responsibilities are vital to the smooth operation of the Patrol Office. She is a valuable employee who handles a range of projects efficiently and accurately. During the past year she has performed her duties in an exemplary manner. Her commitment to excellence and professionalism reflect positively on Central Area and the Department. Marilyn is truly deserving of the honor to be selected as the Central City Police Boosters Civilian employee of the Year.

Central Area Supervisor of the Year: Sergeant I James MacDonald

Sergeant MacDonald has been Central Area's primary initial responder to Homeless issues serving the people of Downtown Los Angeles. He is in the field everyday, providing training, guidance, direction and motivation necessary to achieve an effective and disci-

plined small unit tasked with supporting the goals of Central Area. The Eastside Detail, under Sergeant MacDonald's apt leadership made over 3,900 public contacts, issued over 1,100 citations and



Sgt. I James MacDonald

arrested nearly 1,100 law violators, which eleven percent of all arrests made by Central Area Officers. It is with great pride and honor that the Central City Police Boosters recognizes and acclaims Sergeant James MacDonald as Sergeant of the Year.

Central Area Police Officer III of the Year: Police Officer Juan Guerra

As a Field Training Officer he has a significant impact on young officers' attitudes, ethics and values in carrying out the duties of a Los Angeles Police Officer. This impact will remain with them throughout their career. Officer Guerra has demonstrated an exceptional



P3 Juan Guerra

ability to impart knowledge, build confidence, and instill job oriented skills in the probationary officers assigned to him. Officer Guerra is a hard working individual and a peer leader who others look up to and follow as a role model. He has been commended on several occasions for his productivity. During the past year he has performed his duties in an exemplary manner. It is with great pleasure and truly deserving that Officer Juan Guerra received the honor from the Central City Police Boosters as Police Officer III of the Year.

Central Area Police Officer II of the Year: Officer Beth Jenkins



P-2 Beth Jenkins

Officer Jenkins is one of the most productive and proactive officers at Central Division. She utilizes the knowledge she acquired from working the Special Enforcement Unit, Gang Detail,

along with her keen observation skills, to uncover criminal activity and apprehend those involved. She understands the importance of positive police-community relations and strives to make every contact a productive and positive one. Her work is of the highest quality and she can be relied upon to complete any task in an exemplary and timely manner. The Central City Police Boosters is proud to select Officer Beth Jenkins as Central Area's Police Officer II of the Year.

Central Area Detective of the Year: Detective I Patricia Hauck

Detective Hauck assumed the role as lead detective in several high profile rape and child molestation cases. In one case, through her tenacious pursuit, the suspect, a registered sex offender, was identified, and following trial was sen-



Det. I Patricia Hauck

tence to 60 years to life. The presiding judge referred to the suspect as "the most dangerous sexual predator" he has seen in his 25 years on the bench. She is highly respected by her subordinates, peers and supervisors, but most importantly by the people she serves everyday. She is a worthy role model for all officers. It is with great honor that Detective Patricia Hauck be recognized as the Central City Police Boosters choice for Detective of the Year.

Central Area Volunteer of the Year: Kristina "Tina" Olson

Tina has been involved as a volunteer at the Central Community Police Station for four years and in that time, she has tirelessly given hundreds of hours to assist in a variety endeavors. Her time has been spent teaching basic reading and math skills to youth participating in the Juvenile Impact Program. As a leader in the L.A. Morning Rotary Club she is well versed in the need for literacy among children and adults within our community. Tina was instrumental initiating a grant for this program, which was procured through the Weingart Foundation. Tina has given so much of

herself to make lives better for others. While she has never sought recognition or notoriety, it is our honor to express to her our heartfelt appreciation by recog-



Volunteer Kristina Olson

nizing her as the Central City Police Boosters Volunteer of the Year.

Outstanding Community Service Award: Senior Lead Officer Randall McCain

This award is to formally recognize Senior Lead Officer Randall McCain for his outstanding achievements at Central Area over the past 16 years. His commitment to making a difference has led him to develop expertise in narcotics, gangs, illegal vending and quality of life issues affecting the downtown area. Officer McCain has worked patrol, walked a foot beat, been a member of the bike detail, the Gang Unit and for the past six years he has been a Senior Lead Officer. He is recognized throughout



Senior Lead Officer Randall McCain

Central Area as the "Go-To-Guy." On many occasions he has been relied on to take the lead in the field when there was a shortage of supervisors. His rapport with community members has enabled Central Area to raise thousands of dollars to help support youth programs. It is now the Central City Police Boosters great pleasure to recognize Officer Randall McCain as the true professional that he is and honor him with the Outstanding Community Service Award.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

Sepulveda Auto Body

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7650 Sepulveda Boulevard, Van Nuys, California 91405

DIVISIONAL REPORTER

West LA Journal

by Mary Dacey
The West L.A. Journal

By the time you get home from work, pour yourself your beverage of choice, get a little snack, put your feet up and open *The Thin Blue Line* there might be a night shift for the detectives. This will be the first time that has happened since changes were made around 1970. They'll be out on the streets apprehending suspects, slapping on handcuffs and drinking coffee during the midnight hour. The changes instituted by the new chief have been exciting so far...hopefully this will be another good idea.

Where were YOU when the war on Iraq started? (That is, unless it hasn't started or has somehow been averted.) That question may, unfortunately, fall into the same category as those who were asked where they were when President Kennedy was shot or where they were when they heard about 9/11. Officer Robert Peters has joined the ranks of those sent off for the war effort.



Although this photo goes back to 2002, WLA Detectives Bishop and Hooshmand can be seen leading the pack during one of their infamous runs.

He said he will probably be headed for Iraq, and we wish him and the others a safe return. We lend our support to all of the men and women in the armed forces who have risked their lives for the cause of freedom. Paul McCartney's lyrics after 9/11 put it well, "I will fight for the right to live in freedom."

Next time you see Det. Terri Minter, ask her who her "darling" is?! It's sure to make her day. And now, I must put on my old Girl Scout uniform and go scout-

ing around for a commendable cop caper. Everyone at West L.A. does such a bang-up job that it's hard to choose between one story and another. Nevertheless, I have chosen a traffic stop that occurred when Officer Duron, #35211, and Officer Schmitz, #32902, were driving in the area of Garth and Sawyer. They observed a gray Infiniti with the front license plate placed in the

marijuana as well as a pen pipe. He told the officers that he was selling marijuana because he was unable to find a good paying job. This arrest hopefully prevented more drugs from being sold on campus and could perhaps lead to the arrest of the supplier.

The February, 2003, edition of the "Los Angeles Police Beat" listed the names of personnel who were com-



WLA's Training Unit P3 Officer Jim Merle



West LA Detectives and Narcotics 1973 - West LA Mystery Cops Photo of the Month.

mended by the community during the month of November, 2002. Those names included some of the employees at West L.A. They were: P3+1 Dennis Hinman, P3 Phillip O'Connor, P3+1 Christopher Ragsdale and Sgt. Brian Gallagher.

Two new detectives will be making their way to West L.A.: F. Martinez from BAD, and S. Simmons from CRS. Lt. I.P. Stalker will be arriving from NE, P2 L. Jackman will be leaving for Wilshire and RPO A. Gower will be leaving for WTD. That's all the movement in the force for this time around. We wish you all the best of luck.



by James Tomeo
Rampart Division

Let's start the month off with a new addition for the Cerda family. Congratulations to Joel and his wife, Kathie. They are the proud new parents of Jason Joel Cerda. Jason weighed in at 8 lbs., 6 oz. and was 20 inches long. Mom and baby are doing well, but Joel

has yet to get a wink of sleep. At least that's what he told me?? Oh yeah, Joel, where is my cup of coffee?

Departures

We hate to see her go but P-3 C. Perkins is off to Central Bureau. You will be missed, Christine. P-3 C. Gomez is on his way to USD to do what no one really knows. Probably some secret stuff he can't talk to us regular folk about. Sgt. K. Benitez is leaving for Juvenile Division. P-3 C. Mejia is going to Central Bureau Vice. What's with the Vice gigs, Clarence??

Arrivals

Rampart is getting an oldie but a goodie back this month. P-3 C. Dona is on his way back to Rampart. Welcome back, Clint. Along with P-3s J. Campos,

and I. Ford. And last, but not least, P-3 J. Muniz. No I didn't forget you, Jimmy. You better run for us, too. Welcome to Sgt. K. Sepanlou and P-2s J. Audelo, M. Hernandez, D. Giron, and B. Phillips.

Then our new P-1s C. Misa, R. Sotelo and J. Tavares welcome to Rampart. Time to prove yourselves. Sink or swim!!

Commendable Capers

M. Fisher, #33984; H. Vantwist, #33290; C. Shanahan, #31078; B. Mossie, #34657; J. Eastburn, #35010; M. Hernandez, #36431.

On February 19, 2003, Officers Fisher and Mossie were at the intersection of Temple/Glendale. They observed a red SUV that matched the description of a vehicle that had been used in the

commission of several armed robberies in the area. They followed the vehicle to a nearby gas station and were able to take two occupants of the vehicle into custody, without incident. They recovered two replica handguns from inside the vehicle, along with numerous items of property. The property belonged to multiple victims of armed robberies that had occurred in the area.

With the help of Officers Vantwist, Eastburn, Shanahan and Hernandez, Fisher and Mossie were able to I.D. the two occupants as the suspects in several armed robberies. The arrests led to a lot of D.R.s being cleared and an additional suspect's arrest at a different location by detectives. Great job! And outstanding teamwork by all involved!

CONSIDERING PLASTIC SURGERY??

Do you have questions about cosmetic surgery? ASK HELEN, wife of retired LAPD officer, Helen Elliott has over 20 years experience as an Aesthetic Consultant. Helen Elliott Enterprises, Inc. A guidance service to the finest Beverly Hills Plastic Surgeons for your **SPECIFIC DESIRED NEEDS**.

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BUY A HOME WITH AS LITTLE AS \$100 DOWN AND AT A 50% DISCOUNT!

If you are a full time, sworn law enforcement officer, you may be eligible to buy a home under the "Officer Next Door" program. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) offers you an opportunity to become a homeowner at a 50% discount! Budget Finance Company specializes in providing officers loans to purchase these homes, even to those with credit problems. I've provided loans to many officers who are now homeowners. Call me today for a free copy of the HUD Q&A for the "Officer Next Door" program.



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SPORTS BEAT

Sports Beat is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. For information about submissions to Sports Beat, please call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800.

LAPRAAC Sports Roundup

by Lew Snow
Sports Beat Editor

Nearly a quarter century ago LAPRAAC came up with an event that had a twofold purpose: (a) pay homage to the officers who had made the ultimate sacrifice protecting and serving the citizens of Los Angeles, and (b) bring personnel and their families together in one place to celebrate all that is good with dedicating one's life to law enforcement. So one sunny morning in 1979 (back when Jimmy Carter was president and gas was about 75 cents a gallon) the first LAPD Memorial Run was held.

Over the intervening 25 years the races have had a bipolar identity—some years have been very somber due to the loss of life over the previous 12 months, others buoyant with the relief a year had passed without having to put a black band over the badge.

The LAPD family will gather again, on Saturday, May 3, at Dockweiler Beach in Playa del Rey, to celebrate its heroes at the 25th Annual Memorial Relay. It will be the second straight year *without a department fatality*. But unfortunately we all know that at some time in the near future, the law of averages will rear its ugly head and we will once again lose one of our own in the line of duty.

There is no better way to remember our brothers and sisters who have given their lives to protect the lives of others, than to participate in the Memorial Relay. An application appears elsewhere in the Sports Beat section and can also be downloaded from our Web site at www.lapraac.com/sportsbeat. A one-mile walk/fun run starts at 0815, the individual three-mile run at 0845 and the 15-mile team relay at 0945. Cost is a measly \$15 for the one-mile, \$25 for the three-mile and \$125 per team of five runners for the relay.

Help us honor the memory of the heroes who gave their lives...and celebrate the heroes who patrol our streets 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days each year. Mark your calendars now!

Will It Be 15 Straight for the Power Pigs on May 16?

What has become the Department's greatest winning streak will be put on the line Friday, May 16, at the Spring Intradepartmental Bench Press contest. The 77th Street Power Pigs, undefeated since May, 1996, will attempt to win their 15th straight contest against what promises to be stiff competition from Rampart, Pacific and Transit Services.

Last fall's contest featured the highest turnout of females in history, and it was the power of Rampart's ladies that almost sent the Power Pigs home with their curled tails between their legs. Teams coached by the "Sultan of

Swine," Lt. Paul von Lutzow, have won all but one contest over the last ten years.

Weigh-in for the event is Thursday, May 15, at three locations: 0800-1500 on the Elysian Park Academy gym stage, 0900-1300 at Devonshire (second trailer in the parking lot), and 0800-1300 at 77th's weight room. Entry fee is \$20. Teams can consist of no more than 40 competitors. Applications are available at all weight rooms and from the Athletic Director's office at the Academy (next to the credit union).

The Never-Ending Hoop Season

We hoped to have results of all the post-season basketball tournaments, including whether 77th Street was able to retain the department championship, in this month's issue. However, the delays that plagued league play rolled right over into tournament action. After a number of postponements, the tourney finally got underway but were not complete at our press deadline. Without hesitation we can unequivocally promise results of post-season play will appear in the next issue of *The Thin Blue Line*.

It's Your Money – Keep It!

Spring break is just around the corner for your school-age kids and that usually means a trip to a local amusement park. Why pay full fare when LAPRAAC can help you keep your money in your pocket.

Deep discount tickets for California Adventure, Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, Legoland, Magic Mountain, Sea World, Universal Studios, and a dozen more attractions (including movie theaters and golf) are available by visiting the LAPRAAC office at the Elysian Park Academy. (An example to whet your interest: a family of four going to Magic Mountain saves \$73!)

Reserved level tickets (located between bases) for selected Dodger home games are also available (\$17 each) this year, but a list of games was not available at our press deadline.

For more information on discount tickets, call the LAPRAAC office at (323) 221-5222, ext. 201, or e-mail Ali at amachado@lapraac.com. (Note: there is a \$1 per ticket surcharge for non-LAPRAAC members.)

The Kenny Watch: An Update

Last month we mentioned octogenarian Kenji Taniguchi, one of the most beloved and avid supporters of LAPD athletics over the last 55 years, was seriously ill. At the deadline for this issue, Kenny was still hospitalized at Good Samaritan but fighting hard and in good spirits. Our thanks to all for your prayers and best wishes for Kenny's speedy recovery. Please continue to keep him in your thoughts through this difficult period.

Calif. Summer Games Fast Approaching

The 2003 California Police and Fire Games will be upon us in two short months and the deadline for applications is fast approaching. For the first time ever, police and fire personnel from Arizona, Nevada, Oregon and Utah will be allowed to compete.

Over 60 different events are featured—something to fit every department athlete's niche. For more information or applications, contact LAPD Athletic Director Tony Adler at (323) 221-5222, ext. 218 or visit www.cpfgames2003.com.

Check Us Out on the Web

Don't have your copy of *The Thin Blue Line* handy and want to check out something that appears in the Sports Beat Section? Many of the stories and pictures are also posted on the LAPRAAC Web site. Check out www.lapraac.com/sportsbeat. Articles are usually posted a few days before the end of the month.

We Welcome Your Articles

Submitting articles for Sports Beat is the best way to make sure your team's upcoming events and stellar exploits are seen by the widest range of department personnel, active and retired. If you're planning an event, or have one coming up, submit an article about two months in advance for pre-event publicity.

To be included in Sports Beat we must receive articles—via fax or e-mail—no less than three days before the end of current month: articles received by April 27 will appear in the June issue, May 28 for July, June 27 for August, etc.

E-mail articles to LAPDSportsBeat@aol.com or fax to (818) 957-4275. Even if you only send notes with a contact name/phone, we can create an article to get the word out. Photos are welcome. Low-res jpeg images (scans) are preferred via e-mail (or indicate on your fax or e-mail you have photos and we'll contact you). ♦

More Sports Beat on next page

Because Your Life May Depend On It ...



You can now get information to help reach your top physical condition. There's a valuable benefit to Los Angeles Police Relief Association (LAPRA) members who have chosen Blue Cross of California Prudent Buyer (PPO) as their health plan. If you're among that group and are the main subscriber, you're entitled to an annual comprehensive health and fitness evaluation at Centinela Hospital's Fitness Institute.*

This evaluation, which goes beyond the standard mix of x-rays and blood tests, is supervised by a physician board certified in preventive medicine who performs a comprehensive physical examination, which includes:

- Cardiovascular health testing with a treadmill stress test
- Lab tests
- Chest x-rays
- Vision and hearing exams
- Body fat, strength and flexibility analysis
- Pap smears for women and prostate screenings for men
- Nutritional consultation

Upon completion, you'll meet with our exercise physiologist to discuss the evaluation and receive a personalized handbook with testing results.

**Call Today for an Appointment
800-491-EXAM**

**Centinela Hospital's Fitness Institute
At Centinela Hospital Airport Medical Clinic**

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Located at Centinela Hospital Airport Medical Clinic
9601 S. Sepulveda Boulevard • Los Angeles, CA 90045

* Any optional tests or services rendered will be the responsibility of the individual.

SPORTS BEAT

THE LOS ANGELES POLICE REVOLVER AND ATHLETIC CLUB PRESENTS



25th ANNUAL LAPD MEMORIAL RELAY SATURDAY MAY 3, 2003 Dockweiler Beach, Playa del Rey



(105 Fwy. west to the beach)

1 Mile – Walk

One Mile Fun Run (12 & under)

3-Mile Individual Run (open to anyone)

Platoon formation

15-Mile Team Relay (full time LAPD employees only)

0700-0800 – Late Registration (add \$10 late fee per individual)

0815 – One-mile Fun Run/Walk

0845 – Individual 3-mile Run

0930 – Memorial Service

0945 – 15-mile Team Relay

AWARDS:

All finishes in the 1-mile Fun Run (12 & under)

Top three male/female individuals in each category

Top three relay teams in each category

Entry Fee: (includes T-shirt, meal ticket and chance of raffle prize)

\$15 – One-mile Fun Run/Walk

\$25 – Individual Entry

\$125 – Team Entry (5 runners)

Note: Day of race entry add \$10 per individual

Static LAPD displays, rock-climbing wall, moon bounces,
free food to all competitors.

Many giveaways (must be present to win).

Pick up race packets one week prior to event at the Academy.

For further information, call (323) 221-5222, ext. 218.

All the proceeds benefit the "LAPD Family Support Group"

3 MILE – INDIVIDUAL

(Open to anyone)

Last name: _____ First name: _____

Work phone: _____ Pager #: _____

Home phone: _____

Division/Area representing:

Male _____ Female _____ Age (as of race date) _____ T-shirt size _____

Please check the appropriate box:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. | 12 & under Fun Run (1 mile) | <input type="checkbox"/> 7. | 21 to 29 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. | One-mile walk (all ages) | <input type="checkbox"/> 8. | 30 to 39 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. | 12 & under (3 mile) | <input type="checkbox"/> 9. | 40 to 49 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. | 13 to 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10. | 50 to 59 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. | 16 to 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> 11. | 60 and above |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6. | 18 to 20 | | |

Registration: Make checks payable to LAPRAAC and send with entry form to:

Los Angeles Police Revolver & Athletic Club
Attn: Memorial Relay
P.O. Box 861148
Los Angeles, CA 90086-1148

Or Department mail to:
LAPD Athletic Director Officer Tony Adler
CED Stop 412

Pick up race packets one week prior to event at the Academy.

Assumption of Risk, Liability Waiver and Release (Each participant must READ and sign below)
IN CONSIDERATION of being allowed to participate in the LAPD MEMORIAL RUN ("MEMORIAL RUN") hosted by the LOS ANGELES POLICE REVOLVER & ATHLETIC CLUB, INC. ("LAPRAAC"), the undersigned hereby personally assumes all risks in connection with said MEMORIAL RUN for any harm, injury or damage that may befall the undersigned in any way while I am a participant in the MEMORIAL RUN, including all risks connected therewith whether foreseen or unforeseen. The undersigned understands and agrees that neither LAPRAAC, the city of Los Angeles, their officers, directors, employees, agents, representatives, attorneys, affiliates, sponsors, subsidiaries, related companies, successors and assigns (collectively "RELEASED PARTIES") may be held liable or responsible in any way for injury, death, or other damages to me or any family, heirs or assigns that may occur as a result of my participation in the MEMORIAL RUN or as a result of negligence of any party, including the RELEASED PARTIES, whether passive or active. The undersigned, on behalf of myself, my heirs, executor(s) and administrator(s) do hereby fully and completely to the maximum extent allowed by law waive, release and forever discharge the RELEASED PARTIES from any and all claims, charges, actions, suits, demands, obligations, damages, injuries, liabilities, losses and causes of action of every character, nature, kind or description arising out of or relating to my participation in the MEMORIAL RUN. The undersigned hereby understands that if I am a sworn officer of the Los Angeles Police Department that LAPRAAC does not carry or provide any insurance coverage for injury on duty status and that I will be personally responsible for any injuries that I may incur during my participation in the MEMORIAL RUN. THE UNDERSIGNED HAS FULLY READ THE ABOVE AND IS INFORMED OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS ASSUMPTION OF RISK, LIABILITY WAIVER AND RELEASE AND HAS WILLINGLY SIGNED IT ON BEHALF OF MYSELF AND MY HEIRS.

Dated: _____ Participant Signature: _____

Print Name of Participant: _____

Parent or Guardian of Participant: _____

*Participants under age 18 must have this form signed by a parent or guardian

BAKER TO VEGAS CHALLENGE CUP RELAY RACE

Motor Team – Baker to Vegas
Riders Needed



On April 12th & 13th, the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club will be sponsoring the annual relay event. The Motor Team – Baker to Vegas support the event by supplying skilled motorcycle riders who serve as Race Officials.

The function includes enforcement of Race Rules related to race and traffic safety. Motorcycles are required to have 4-way flashers, with Family Radio Service (FRS) 2-way radios (a \$50 reimbursement covers the majority of the FRS cost), with licensed HAM 2-way radios are a real plus.

Those individuals, both sworn and non-sworn, who would like to assist in covering Motor Team assignments for the event are encouraged to contact us for further details on equipment and assignments available, plus partial expense reimbursement provision.

Motor Team Coordinator Gary Krystof (LAPD Reserve)
(818) 366-9431 motorteam@earthlink.net

Motor Team - Supervisor Arizona/Nevada Area
Dick Studdard (LAPD Retired) (928) 776-9172
rsazwing@aol.com



Baker to Vegas

Sunday, April 13, 2003

9:00 pm to 2:00 am

The Las Vegas Hilton
Hilton Ballroom
3000 Paradise Road
Las Vegas, NV 89109

Food, drink, music, dancing,
and fun. It all begins at 9 pm
& continues into the night
with a DJ performing until
2:00 am.

Buy your tickets now in the
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Administrative Office
1880 North Academy Drive
Los Angeles Police Academy

To order by mail complete
this order form and send to:
LAPRAAC
Administrative Office

P.O. Box 861148
Los Angeles, CA 90086-1148

Phone: 323-221-5222 x202
Fax: 323-222-5949
lapraac@lapraac.com



PRESENTS THE OFFICIAL 2003 Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay Party!!!

Order your tickets now and save!
\$15 Pre-sale — \$20.00 at the door

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Method of Payment: Check Cash

_____ tickets @ \$15.00 each = \$ _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp. _____

Visa Mastercard Discover

Signature _____

Metro Red, Women Seek to Repeat Success at Baker to Vegas Relay

by Lew Snow, Sports Beat Editor

In a few short days athletes from around the world will mix sweat with sand at the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay, a grueling 120-mile duel in the desert sponsored by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club. Over the April 12-13 weekend nearly 10,000 runners, support personnel, volunteers and spectators will descend upon the Mojave Desert hamlets of Baker and Shoshone, picturesque Pahrump and glorious Las Vegas in the 19th running of the largest law enforcement athletic event in the world.

LAPD's Metro Division Red Team, winner of the 2001 and 2002 events and four of the last five races, is looking to tie LASO's Central Jail (CJ) for the record of five Baker to Vegas victories. "All last year's runners have returned and we've been training hard," said Team Captain **Joe McWilliams**. "Our goal is a sub 13 (hour) race." Trying to break the winning streak is a six-pack of strong teams—the LASO's Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB) and CJ squads, FBI Los Angeles office, San Diego PD, New York PD Running Club

and Orange County Sheriffs.

Metro runners have a big incentive this year—they're competing to support **Charly Ann Daniels**, daughter of long-time team member **Ronnie Daniels**, who has been stricken with Cystic Fibrosis. "We're asking all participants, runners and volunteers alike to buy a special CF bracelet to support the fight against the disease," said McWilliams. "Information has gone out to all teams and we're hoping to raise a significant amount. We want to do the right thing for Ronnie and his family, and help raise awareness of Cystic Fibrosis."

SEB and CJ, last year's bridesmaids, have been furiously working towards an upset. Best shot is given to SEB, which led the 2002 race until halfway through the last leg. "We've got the same game plan and same runners (as last year)," said Team Captain **Jeff Rigen**. "Gonna put our 20 best out there and see what happens." Last year **Sheriff Lee Baca**, their leg 20 runner, fell victim to heat exhaustion and barely made it over the finish line before collapsing like a wet rag. "I've run with him dozens of times and he's a great runner. It was just a quirk of fate," Rigen explained. "The

Sheriff's a great competitor and he's ready to run this year if we need him."

CJ, which dominated the race in the mid-'90s, is back with a passion. "Our guys are more enthusiastic this time around, probably because we did so well last year," said Team Captain **Tim Drulos**. "We've got a veteran group of runners who are highly motivated. With a couple of breaks the race could go our way."

Returning for the second year is the New York Police Running Club, a squad of elite runners representing the Big Apple's finest. They made a strong showing in 2002's race, running to honor all the law enforcement, military and civilian personnel who gave their lives on the fateful morning of September 11, and on the battlefields in Afghanistan. The other members of the six-pack have consistently been in the top rung of finishers the last few races, and with the right circumstances, also have the potential of denying Metro the victory.

Of the 215 teams committed to face the starter's gun, a record 11 are all-female squads. They're seeking to topple the LAPD women who have lost only once in years they have fielded a team, and are undefeated since 1995. "The gals are putting in a lot of extra time preparing for the race," said Team Captain **Sherri Egan**, "and we're training this year with **Pat Connely** to get an extra boost." Her team of committed "regulars" is encouraged by the extra competition this year. "Many females feel 'part' of an all-women team because it's a more cohesive, goal-centered group with a different type of camaraderie than a mixed squad. There's also a strong desire out there to beat LAPD. But if we (the LAPD women) want it bad enough we'll win it."

There will be a new champion in the Mixed Category this time out since four-time winner Stockton PD is not fielding a team. SEB is looking for its 11th straight 800 Category win (combined age of all runners exceeds 800 years) and Fremont PD is seeking a fifth straight 800 Category win (agencies with 300 or less sworn personnel).

The first group of competitors (race

consists of 20 stages of varying lengths)

take off at 1400 hours from a spot 20 miles north of beautiful downtown Baker, with additional flights at 1530, 1700, 1830 (the fastest teams) and 1930. They follow a 120-mile route through flat desert sands, undulating hills, steep mountain ranges and rolling pastures along Highway 127 to Shoshone (five buildings and a gas station) and up Highway 178 (372 across the Nevada state line) to Pahrump. A hard right turn onto Highway 160 and grueling climb to nearly 5,500 ft. at Mountain Springs Summit challenges the best of runners before reaching the finish line at the Silverton Hotel (just off I-5 at the southern tip of Las Vegas). The overall fastest team is expected to cross the finish line between 0715 and 0745 on Sunday morning, April 13.

Climax of the two-day event, also featuring a Law Enforcement Expo at the Las Vegas Hilton, is the gala awards ceremony Sunday night (also at the Hilton). Golden-throated KFWB News reporter **Pete Demetriou**, a long-time LAPD supporter and Baker to Vegas volunteer, will emcee the event and former Laker star **Norm Nixon** is one of the many celebrities scheduled to appear. Presentation of awards is followed by an all-night blast in the main ballroom from 2100 until 0200. The party will feature food, drink, live deejay, dancing and fun. A limited number of \$15 pre-sale tickets are available through the LAPRAAC administrative office (Elysian Park Academy) or by calling (323) 221-5222, ext. 202. Don't procrastinate, although cost at the door is \$20 there's no guarantee any tickets will still be available.

Official Baker to Vegas Relay merchandise, including t-shirts, jackets, caps, coffee mugs and sweatshirts, is available at the Elysian Park Academy

Store or online at www.bakervegas.com/store.

Due to press deadlines we'll have full coverage of the 2003 race, including official times and loads of photographs, in the June edition of *The Thin Blue Line*. For up-to-the-minute race information, call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800, or visit the race Web site at www.bakervegas.com.

'02 BAKER TO VEGAS RELAY WINNERS

Open – LAPD Metro Red Team 13:12:47 (repeat)

Women – LAPD 15:50:39 (repeat)

Mixed – Stockton Area Police Departments 14:12:14 (4th straight)

Stations – LASO East Los Angeles Station 14:16:01 (repeat)

Invitational – Los Angeles County Lifeguards 14:47:50 (repeat)

Inv. Mixed – Los Angeles County District Attorneys 15:42:51 (repeat)

800 – LASO Special Enforcement Bureau 13:19:20 (10th straight)

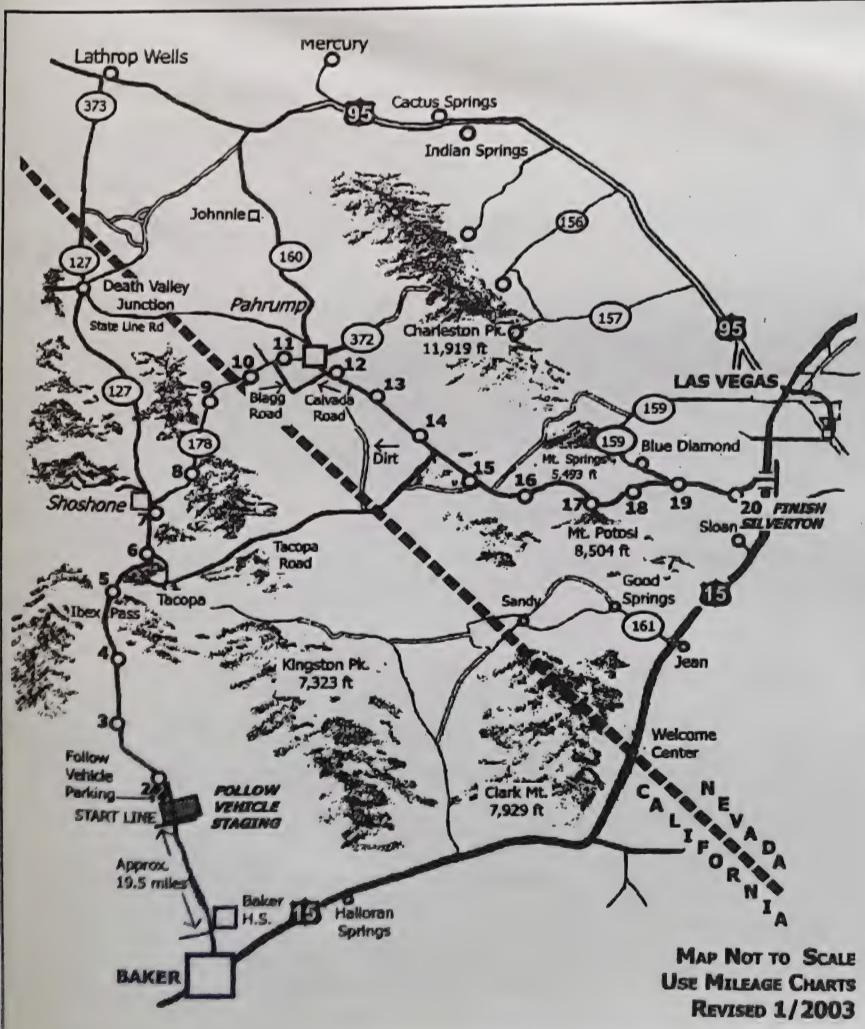
1000 (301-1000 sworn) – FBI Los Angeles Bureau 13:30:02

300 (151-300) – Fremont Police Dept. 14:57:26 (4th straight)

150 (100-150) – Orem UT Dept. Public Safety 14:59:11 (record)

99 (99 or less) – Tustin Police Department 17:19:35

Guest – New York City Police Department 13:47:20



More Sports Beat on next page



Joel Berk, retired Ad Vice Detective, is now the owner of one of San Diego's premiere charter sport fishing boats. The boat specializes in 1-3 day charters, fishing for tuna, yellowtail and dorado. The GALLILEAN is 60' x 20' and can sleep up to 24 passengers. Contact Capt. Harlan Berk for additional information. Law enforcement charters receive a 5% discount.

Harlan Berk

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SPORTS BEAT

Baker to Vegas Relay, "The Correct Runner for the Correct Leg"

by Coach Pat Connelly
with Coach Chuck Foote,
LAPD Retired

The Baker to Vegas Relay is once again upon the men and women of the Los Angeles Police Department. It is a time of the year I look forward to once again putting on the racing uniform of the LAPD and represent my Department for the honor of being the best you can be in the desert and mountains of California and Nevada. All of us that run the race look to improve on last year's individual performance and as a team move up in the standings. Or perhaps win a division category or possibly vie for that all-important overall team win and a "Silver Belt Buckle." My "Belt Buckle" hangs in my retirement shadow box on the wall of my office. It represents a team effort while I was assigned to Training Division as a drill instructor in 1987 (a little snow on the top of a mountain did help).

There is no question that many things brought Training Division the championship that year and talented L.A.P.D. Academy Athletes was the main reason. However, there is one very important consideration that every team must have and to be at their team best and cannot be without—that is "Runner Placement." Your team can be 20-40 minutes faster. It comes down to putting round pegs in round holes and square pegs in square holes. Just ask Hollenbeck and Metropolitan Divisions. They won by the slimmest of margins and were behind and off the pace with a third of the race to go. It came down to other teams putting their fast and strong runners up front, while weaker and less conditioned or less talented athletes on the later stages could not hold the lead. LAPD teams that won distributed their talent in specific tactical legs and were consistent and strong from start to finish.

Team coaches and captains cannot

just consider the top fastest runners on the most difficult legs. You must consider the condition, talent, and psychological and physiological strengths on leg deployment. Who has the best strength for the hill portion (up and down), high altitude, handling the heat, extreme cold and of course the distance of the leg. Information on runner strength and weakness can only be analyzed through observing training, athlete past experience under stress and performance during time trials. Do not just make a team analysis running on a flat course. Team captains and coaches must send their team on an uphill time trial. At Metro, Joe McWilliams sent his team up Angeles Crest for evaluation. At Training Division, Chuck Foote ran his team from Riverside and Stadium Way to the top of Cardiac Hill above the Academy. The results identified which athlete was the best hill runner (let's say for leg #3). At Metro our fifth fastest on the flat was the best going uphill. Also, the uphill runners must be aware that they will most likely face a lack of oxygen, cold, ice, snow and wind.

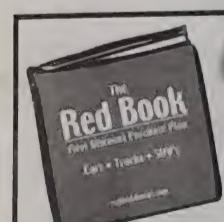
For the lead-off leg and anchor leg, the athlete may not be your top five or six, but an athlete that possesses great constitutional strengths and has a racing background. You want your lead-off runner to put or keep your team in contention, not necessarily be in the top five places at handoff for leg #2. This athlete must display the ability to run smart and have the least amount of follow car support. You must depend on this runner not to go out too fast and burn out or do something stupid like refusing to hydrate along the way. Your leadoff runner going down will cost the team big time. The same can be said for your anchor leg. That runner must display some talent to race and discipline to race and know pace. However, that runner must be someone that will not take off so fast to catch a team ahead that the runner burns out or goes down. This happened last year when Metro overtook the L.A. County Sheriff (S.E.B.) team and won the championship. Sheriff Lee Baca went way too fast too early and ran out of gas. The Metro runner (S. Gordon) kept a strong early pace, changed gears at halfway and used a power gear to pass the S.E.B. team and go on to win.

Below is a breakdown of a mock team and how Coach Chuck Foote and I would deploy the mock team across the 20 legs. We have listed their qualifying order, mental and physical strengths (*1 indicates strong and #5 indicates weak).

# Leg	Time Trial Pos.	Distance	Leg Rating & Desc.	Remarks
#1	19	5.5	Rated #19 Mostly Flat	*2 Hot & a pressure leg, 3 miles no support
#2	20	4.7	#20-Slight decline, gradual incline, .5 down	*5 Good place for slow runner
#3	1	8.2	#1 One mile down, 3-flat, 4.2 up, up & up 1,500 ft.	*1 Need a tough well conditioned athlete, mental and physical
#4	5	5.1	#5 3.4 up to 2,090 ft. down 1.7	*2 Good hill runner
#5	18	6.0	#18 Easy downhill	*5 Needs to know how to run downhill
#6	11	6.1	#11 Flat then rolling	*4 Use steady consistent runner
#7	4	6.2	#4 3.5 uphill	*1 Need strong hill runner
#8	2	7.3	#2 cold and uphill	*1 Need strong heart, legs, lungs and discipline
#9	10	6.8	#10 Little up and a lot downhill	*4 A weaker athlete leg-practice at night
#10	17	5.8	#17 Flat run into Pahrump	*3 Good leg for a track runner-Town Support
#11	16	5.3	#16 Slight uphill	*2 Halfway of race
#12	14	4.7	#14 Last 4 incline	*2 2,900 ft. hard to breathe, dark, wind and cold-need tough runner
#13	7	7.0	#7 4.2 up	*3 Long, altitude, dark, cold, & late at night-need strength more than speed
#14	8	5.4	#8 4.4 climb 3,800 ft.	*1 Climb to summit, ice, snow wind-Your point man/woman should be on this leg
#15	6	5.7	#6 Up and up 4,600 ft.	*1 Same as above
#16	3	5.0	#3 Most difficult challenge 5,400 ft.	*1 Iron man leg-best and bravest. Lack of oxygen
#17	15	6.8	#15 .6 miles to 5,495 ft., 10K downhill	*5 Select this runner early, must practice running downhill. Hold back-hard on legs, runner could down.
#18	13	6.7	#13 All downhill	*5 Easy run-hold back
#19	12	6.4	#12 downhill	*5 Easy run-sun up
#20	9	6.1	#9 Flat course	*2 Like leg #1, reliable experienced athlete, knows pace

Note: Coaches and Team Captains: After your final time trial, you must evaluate each runner and look at speed, strength, and mental and physical toughness. Line up your fastest and toughest first then your slowest in that order. Then list them #1 through #20. Follow the suggested assignment order.

Coach Pat Connelly can be reached at (818) 788-3299 or coachpat@secondwindrunning.com.



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LAPD CENTURION 2003 Game Schedule

April 11 & 12, 2003 (Friday & Saturday DP 4*)

NYPD at Baker to Vegas (Host)

(If on Friday we will play a single game. The game may be moved to Saturday for a double header with South Bay and NY Corrections.)

May 3, 2003 (Saturday DP 4*)
Orange County (Host)

May 17, 2003 (Saturday DP 5*)
South Bay (Possible Co-Host)

May 31, 2003 (Saturday DP 5*)
Championship Game
(Location to be announced)

* With this schedule we are playing two games each in Deployment Periods 3, 4, and 5. There will be one travel game per DP (Dallas, B2V and Championship, depending on location) so please plan accordingly.

Work: (213) 978-6510 • Fax: (213) 978-0966
E-mail: A9117@lapd.lacity.org
Home Page: lapdcenturions.com

Blue Softball Team Starts 2003 Season Winning Two Tournaments

by Chris Marsden

Fresh off a dominating season which saw the LAPD "Blue" Softball Team overpower its competition in the police softball circuit, the team opened the 2003 season by winning the AM-COM National Qualifying Tournament in Fontana and the DEA Tournament in Chino Hills.

In 2002 the Blue Team was victorious in five out of eight tournaments, including a gold medal at the California Police and Fire Games. This year the squad is tasked with replacing some long-time veterans who recently hung up their spikes (Ralph Acosta, Tom Chevolek and Rick Record).

Newcomers to the blue uniform—Rick Flores, Nate Hernandez, Dana Oviatt and Todd Patino—made an immediate impact during the AM-COM Tournament, the first of the new season.

The Blue Team finished 5-0 and outscored the competition 116-50. Second baseman **Nate Baez** earned All-Tournament honors by slugging four home runs and batting .750. Also earning All-Tournament selections were third-baseman Oviatt, pitcher **Rodriguez**, and first baseman **Phil Smith**.

At the DEA Tournament, played at the Field of Dreams in Chino Hills, the LAPD Blue Team continued its undefeated for 2003 streak by taking six straight games, and beating the U.S. Border Patrol of the tournament championship. **Chris Marsden** had 25 base hits, followed closely by Baez and Patino with 24 each and Jeff Von Lutzow with 23. **Gabe Rodriguez** went an incredible 17 for 19 from the plate and scored a like number of runs. What a performance! The Blue Team outscored the competition 120-43 with a high of 28 against the S.B. Hitmen.

Centurion Baseballers Prepare for '03 Season; Annual Swing-a-Thon June 28

by Mike Scott

The 2003 LAP Centurions Baseball Team has been practicing hard for what is sure to be one of its best seasons ever. Although some of the faces have changed the squad is definitely not lacking in the talent department, adding some enthusiastic, hardcore players to an already dangerous ball club.

This team will be in search of one thing: gold! They will compete in four tournaments (two at the Arizona games, and at the California and San Diego games) and will again host the LAPD Swing-a-Thon, a fundraiser for local youth organizations.

Saturday, June 28, has been set for the third edition of what has become a great day of community/police camaraderie. Running from 0900-1700 at El Cariso Park in Sylmar, the free public event will be filled with music, fun, giveaways, prize drawings, displays, interactive

games, special guest speakers, celebrity athletes and entertainers, and, of course, baseball!

Kids from participating youth programs will earn great prize packages and each child receives a free t-shirt, food voucher and raffle ticket for all-day prize drawings. They will also be in a free baseball clinic given by pro athletes and LAPD officers, and the Centurions face off against the celebrities in a homerun derby and game.

Stop by the Elysian Park Academy and see the updated showcase with photos, memorabilia, awards and articles. It's all in an effort to bring the department, sports and the diverse community we serve together through America's favorite pastime.

For more information on the Swing-a-Thon or the Centurions, contact **Mike Scott** at (818) 268-2488 or e-mail scottsoldier@aol.com.

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First Practice - Sunday, April 27, 2003 - 0800 AM

Panorama City Iceoplex

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(213) 485-7584

Los Angeles Police Dept. Centurion Paintball Team

Currently seeking skilled players for the upcoming Police Games

If interested please contact Ofc. Travis Jones (TBD 213-922-5100) or (909-809-6346)

MX Team Competes in Xmas Grand Prix Toy Drive at Glen Helen Raceway

by Rob Cosner

It's never too late or out of season to write about a great race for a great cause. On December 10, the LAPD Motocross Team competed at Glen Helen Raceway and brought a truckload of toys for underprivileged children in the Inland Empire.

More than 300 fire and police personnel staged for the brisk morning for an hour-long Grand Prix moto. **Glen Helen** combined two of its tracks and a natural terrain canyon to put all racers (yup, more than 300!) on the course at one time. The start was incredible to watch as the racers started in waves in their respective ability classes.

The track offered natural terrain that was very rough, rutted, dry and muddy—the endurance level needed would make a marathon runner drop to

his knees. In the end it was the LAPD MX Team finishing the final lap as strong as its first.

Results: **Frank Brien** (18-19 beginner), 1st place; **Laura Gerritsen** (open women), 1st; **Kevin Korne** (30-39 beginner), 3rd; **Rob Irvin** (30-39 beginner), 4th; **Dan Hadfield** (30-39 novice), 6th; **Andy Viegara** (30-39 novice), 8th; **Dan Hadfield** (novice team race), 2nd.

Important Dates: Fire and Police Nationals, Perris Raceway, March 31-April 1; LACR Practice Dates: March 18, April 22, May 20; Fire and Police Games, Hangtown (Sacramento) June 16-17.

As always, thanks go to FMP, Acerbis, 661, DSP, 909, Smith, Maxxis, Maxima, IMS and Hinson for their support.

We are actively looking for new racers. For info, contact yours truly at CTD (x3122). ♦

Women's Teams Finish 1-2 at Scorpion Relay

In preparation for this year's Baker to Vegas Relay, the LAPD Women's Running Team participated in the Scorpion Relay, held February 1st. The women fielded two teams and placed first and second in their category.

Running on Team 1 were **Marcella Piersol**, **Xanthe Morales**, **Julie Carpenter**, **Dalila Vizcarra**, and **Mary Kite**. Team 2 members included **Trisha**

Criswell, **Marrissa Frial**, **Maria Martinez**, **Leslie Rogers**, and **Ruth Ann Chavez**. **Mercedes Pena** also showed up for the race and ran with a team that needed an additional runner to be able to compete.

The women runners are already looking strong. They're fully committed to break the long-standing record for the Baker to Vegas course. ♦

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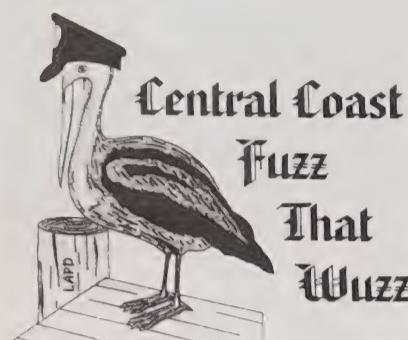
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RETIREMENT NEWS

The Retirement News is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Retirees may submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.



by Dave Aikins

A warm hello from all of us on the Central Coast. Last month we enjoyed our luncheon at the Inn at Morro Bay, and I can tell you that it was well attended by our Fuzz Gang. Due to the deadline for the article, I won't be able to report on it until next time, but I can mention something important. March is a special month for one of our fearless Fuzz Founders and his lovely wife—**Freeman & Nellie Calvert**. Nellie celebrated a birthday on March 24th and Freeman started his LAPD career on March 30, 1937! That's right, folks, 1937. That was over four years before America entered World War II. Most of us hadn't even arrived here yet. In addition, by the time you read this on April 4th, Freeman and Nellie will have celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. Congratulations to both of them, and we

wish them many more years together.

Attention Golfers

I received an e-mail inquiry from a former Metro buddy asking about an LAPD golf tournament in Morro Bay. **Mike Lewin**, recently retired and enjoying his golf game, wanted to participate in the event. Not being familiar with this particular LAPD gathering, I contacted our Fuzz super golfers, **Fred Tuggey** and **Gil Rivera** and gleaned the following: The LAPD golf tournament will be held on May 20 and 21 at the Morro Bay Golf Course. **Ray Allison**, retired LAPD, is coordinating the event, and the Board of Directors of the LAPD Golf Association is assisting in putting it all together. Ray told me that the Keystone Motel in Morro Bay will be the headquarters for the event, which will include two days of golf, a parking lot party and dinner at the Madonna Inn. Ray mentioned that all this was included in the price of \$125, which sounded pretty good to me. Ladies are welcome. Ray can be reached for more details at (714) 968-2489 or e-mail him at allisonpi@earthlink.net.

Gathering of Eagles

Over the weekend of February 20 and 21, Judy and I had the privilege of attending an Air Support Division reunion in Laughlin, Nevada. It was put together by **Dick Stage** and was attend-

ed by about 100 of L.A.'s finest and their spouses. It was a super event. When I looked around the room, I was awed by the LAPD history that was jammed into that dining room. Many of the men attending were law enforcement aviation pioneers, who set the standards for those who later developed the LAPD airborne professionalism that exists today. **Joe Seela** was one of my favorites. He was my supervisor at WLA Division back in the late 1960s. He loved to talk about anything that would fly and was liked by everyone. Joe retired in 1972, 31 years ago, and looks great. He currently resides in Las Cruces, New Mexico, with his wife, Betty. It was nice to see good friends like **Bob Woods** and **Tim McBride** talking about the changes they have seen over the years.

On a sad note, one of my favorite LAPD officers passed away last month after suffering a heart attack. **Mike Partain**, #21042, who had retired, was an energetic addition to ASD and one of those support guys you just liked to have around. He lit up the room when he entered and kept most of us smiling. His sense of humor was legendary and even during stressful times he was able to bring some welcome relief to many of us. Mike was later assigned to the Press Relations Section where he served the Department well. He will be sorely missed. Our condolences go out to his wife, Cindy, and his family.

Stay healthy, folks.

KMA. Catch us at Pismoguynal@charter.net.



Eastern Sierra Nevada Blue Line Retired LAPD

Friday, May 2, 2003

6:00 p.m. Open Bar 7:30 p.m. Dinner

Pinon Plaza, Carson City, NV, Hwy 50

\$45.00 per couple or \$22.50 for singles

**All of you interested in attending
please send the money to:**

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e-mail: colevilleexpress@aol.com

**Please mark if you want beef or chicken for
your dinner. For room reservations or
RV reservations, please call 1-877-519-5567
or www.pinonplaza.com.**

We hope to see a lot of you in May.

**Are you
moving?
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changeofaddress@lappl.org
with your new address!**

Dates to Remember

		Event Time/ Social	Meal
APRIL			
April 2	L.A. Retired Fire & Police General Meeting at Grace Simons Lodge	1000	
April 9	Inland Blue Line	1030	1200
April 9	Italian American P.O.A. Meeting @ Palermo's Restaurant	1700	
April 10	LAPPL College Fair at Police Academy	0900	
April 10	SABLA	1130	1200
April 11	LAPD Centurions v. NYPD at Las Vegas		
April 12 & 13	Baker-to-Vegas Relay		
April 16	Valley Retired Blues	1030	
April 17-19	Arizona Police Games at Tucson	1700	1800
April 24	Ewing "JR" Kwock		
April 26	LAPD/LAPPL participate in Earthday at LA Zoo		
MAY			
May 2-4	Italian American P.O.A. Laughlin Trip	0	
May 3	LAPD Memorial Relay	0700	
May 7	L.A. Retired Fire & Police General Meeting and Annual BBQ	1000	
May 8	SABLA	1130	1200
May 11-17	National Police Week		
May 17	Police-Celebrity Golf Tournament @ Rancho Park Golf Course	0800	
May 21	Valley Retired Blues	1030	

77th Street Division Alumni Assoc. Reunion-2003

It's hard to believe that in June, 1982, we had the first reunion of the 77th Street Division Alumni Association. It was the brainchild of **Morris (Mac) Candlish**, and **George Surber**. It was a complete success, and now, 21 years later, we are still going strong! Our numbers have diminished, from 175 to 114, but when we hear "see you next year," we start making plans. We have some attendees who have been to all 20, and some who are just now able to make it for the first time. Some bring spouses, sons, daughters, friends, and caregivers. We have people who come from as far as Oklahoma. Unfortunately, we lose a few friends each year, but their widows come.

Plans for our 21st reunion are made, and we thought some of you would like to know who attended last year. Maybe you will see a classmate, or former partner, and it might spur your desire to come this year. We have listed the officers in alphabetical order and would like to add your name to the list. Do you know **Bill Achen**,

Abel Armas, Curt Batchelder, Augusta (Gustie) Bell, Pete Brautovich, James Byrd, "Mac" Candlish, Robert (Bob) Carleton; Robert (Bob) Drees, Vic Elliott, Al Fried, Sharon Fried, Richard (Dick) Gingras, Robert (Bob) Hogenbaugh, Marty Hairabedian, Jack Halstead, Jim Hardin, Harley Hunnel, John Hunt, Sam Johnson, Bill Lietz, Charles (Charlie) Loust, Ralph Lucke, William (Bill) Mathieson, Richard McCutcheon, Bernie Michaels, George Mogle, Lou Monico, Albert Pacheco, Robert Parker, John Pearson, Roland Phillips, Lew Ritter, Bill Rombal, Tony Ruiz, Jay Snow, Lou Sporrer, Sid Stoffel, George Surber, Richard Sweet, Paul Thomas, Al Trader, Jan Van Leeuwen, Robin Welborn, Dave Wheeler, Donald G. Williams, Harold Yarnell, and Marty Yturralde?

We would like ALL active and retired officers to attend. You'll have a good time. See our announcement in the *Blue Line*. Hope to see you there. ♦

All Active and Retired LAPD

the 21st 77th Street Division Alumni Association Reunion

WHERE: San Remo Hotel, 115 E. Tropicana Blvd., Las Vegas, Nevada
WHEN: June 2, 3, & 4, 2003
PACKAGE: 3 days, 2 nights (including tax); Hospitality room (bar and snacks & lunch); Five Raffle Tickets; and Banquet
DRESS: Casual
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CUTOFF DATE: May 1, 2003

77TH STREET DIVISION 21ST ANNUAL REUNION GOLF TOURNAMENT

WHEN: Tuesday, June 3, 2003 Tee Off - 7:00 a.m.
WHERE: Rhodes Ranch Golf Club
 20 Rhodes Ranch Parkway
 Las Vegas, NV 81948
 Phone: 1-888-311-8337
COST: \$60.00 per person - Includes golf, cart, range balls, and cash prizes. Special awards for closest to the pin and longest drive.

Registration required by May 30

SOFT SPIKES ONLY

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SCGA or USGA HDCP (as of May 1st) _____

I wish to play with: _____

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Old Blue Running Team

by Mike McKean

Time really flies by. It's time to get all that loose change and head toward Las Vegas. It seems like only a few days since the last Baker to Vegas relay. Each year the runners try to work a little harder so they can run just a little faster for the team. This year look for team #73 to finish up near the top in the over 800 category. It's a shame they don't have a 1000 category as our team is above that category.

The February run was held on the 9th at the usual place. We start our runs on a service road behind the Park Ranger's office. For those of you with the *Thomas Guide*, the location is on page 564 7B. We pass most of the tourist attractions on the way out and also back. The run started promptly at 8:07 a.m. The semi-official time piece broke down shortly thereafter. The backup time piece worked perfectly—4 oz. Of sand equals 30 seconds.

The runners were **Steve Keyser, Jim Becker, Phil Booth, Ron McCall, Mike Cherry, Pat Connelly, Mike Arroyo, Gene Peterson, Eddie Shore, Bob Carter, Keith Allen, Jay Hernando**, and the newcomer and welcome aboard to **Jackie Landsman**.

Support personnel were **Virginia VanHoutte, Corki Rochlitz, Diane Harber, Bob Espinosa, Mike McKean, and Terry Wonders**.

Those of you that missed the March run missed a gala birthday party for our Team Captain, **Chuck McTaggart**. At press time Chuck said he would spring for breakfast, if he could find his wallet! Chuck also mentioned that his age and the team number (73) were getting closer to each other.

In February, Old Blue had three teams participate in the Scorpion Run at William G. Bonelli Park. The over 200 team won that division and finished 3rd overall out of 68 teams.

The mention of the merry-go-round at Griffith Park brings back memories to former member of Metro in the late '60s. Terry Wonders was asked if he had participated in any of those Sunday "get togethers." He replied that he hadn't. However, he said that he did work at the merry-go-round in the early 1950s when he was in high school and that he made the grand total of \$.95 per hour. He recalled that the owner's name was Al Davis (not the Raiders' owner), and that he was a very demanding boss and strove to keep the merry-go-round in tip top shape.

If you were unable to participate in this year's run, start planning for next year. We always enjoy seeing new faces. Say some extra prayers for a couple of our team members who are unable to make it this year. We really miss you! ♦

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RETIREMENT NEWS

Valley Retired Blues

by Clinton O. Erickson

Our next luncheon meeting will be on April 16, 2003, at The Lamplighter restaurant located on the corner of DoSoto Ave. and Nordhoff St. We meet in the bar/lounge area of the restaurant. There is no set start time, so you may arrive any time after 10:30 a.m. Coffee is available until lunch orders are taken. All LAPD officers, wives/friends (active or retired) are welcome to attend. We have no membership dues and time is spent renewing friendships and remi-

niscing the days we worked together.

We had 30 attending our February 19th luncheon. The following attended: **Bob Baker** (7839), **Clark Baker** (22634), **Frances Davidson**, **Jim Davis** (14365), **Ted Debs** (6808), **Emmett Drennen** (3279), **Hilliard** (Curly) **Elliott** (4534), **Ray Elmer** (5607), **Clinton Erickson** (5608), **Bob Fritz** (4583), **Glen Kailey** (3503), **Dean Knouse** (6057), **Tom Lindholm** (4734), **Bob May** (3747), **Lou Mellott** (4037), **Boris Meneghelli** (3522), **Joe Morgan** (10888), **Lou Netza** (7655), **Paul**

Nicholas (4047), **Pete Prieto** (6382), **Ben Reineke** (3190), **Cliff Shannon** (2370), **Bob Sinclair** (7664), **Forest Sloan** (6713), **Stu Stremsterfer** (4394), **Norm Sulflow** (6902), **Jim Swiston** (4654), **Jim Trax** (6185), **Earl Wells** (6297), and **Richard Young** (10585). There weren't any new attendees this month, but a few that have not attended for several months.

I received an e-mail from **George Thomas**, living in Idaho. He was my partner on the Freeway Patrol the night I got clobbered in 1962. George indicated he may visit the Valley and attend one of our lunches. I have e-mail addresses for quite a few (about 50) attending our luncheons and/or annual barbecue. If you would like to contact any of them, send me an e-mail request. **Dave Fender** had planned to attend our February

meeting, but due to medical reasons had to return to Colorado for further treatment. He usually spends the winter months in Needles, Calif.

I know there are a lot of you that worked in the Valley and live in this area and hope you will come and join your old friends for a great bull session. Call me at (818) 340-2430 or e-mail me at clintsr@pacbell.net if you want or have information of interest for us at the Lamplighter. Our meeting information and attendees are on www.LARFPA.com Web site and appear on the Web site about a month prior to seeing them in the *Blue Line* column. Hope to see some more new faces at the next meeting in April. And if you don't remember the date, remember it is always the third Wednesday of each month.

Inland Blue Line

by Loyd H. Yandle

Boy, has this year gone fast. Here it is April and I haven't even set my traps for the Easter Rabbit. I was in hopes I would trap one so I could use his left hind foot as a good luck token. I have worn my old one out. It don't work anymore. It seems I cannot win at any casino I go to. I have to blame it on something, so I blame it on my old rabbit's foot. I guess I have just lost my touch.

For all you retirees who know **Bill Roberts**, I heard from his wife, **Barbara**, and she advised me that Bill still wants to belong to the Inland Blue Line, but that Bill will not be able to attend any luncheons, as Bill has almost lost his sight. He also is losing his hearing. But Barbara sent in the dues because she and Bill want to keep in touch. For all you retirees, you might send them a cheer-up card or note. They are in the Retirement Book—William T. Roberts. They still live in Lakewood, California. They are in our prayers.

I hope **Lloyd & Dora Tucker** will get better, so they can attend the April luncheon. Neither one has been feeling well, but I understand they are on the mend. Dora and Lloyd have been a great help to me, handling the check-in counter at each

of the Blue Line luncheons since **Beverly** passed away. **Wilma Hyden**, our secretary, got back from her flight to Switzerland, to visit her grandchildren. She says it is always nice to get back to the good old U.S.A. Wilma and **Glen Hyden** were charter members. Glen passed away in 1985, but Wilma stuck with us ever since. Don't know what I would do without her.

Thanks to **Betty Wyatt** (wife of CHP officer **James Wyatt**, deceased) for helping out at the check-in counter.

Floyd Phillip has been under the weather, but all you guys who know Floyd, he will bounce back and will be as good as new in no time. His wife, **Lydia**, sees to that. She has taken care of Floyd for a long time.

I love getting *The Thin Blue Line*. As I turn the pages, I (as most of the retirees) look and read "The End of Watch" section. It is sad to see so many that I worked with, around, and for who are listed in the End of Watch. Guys like **Bert Young**, **Ralph Asdel**, **John Nelson**, **Jerry Adams**, **Kenny Parsons**, **Ron Bryant** and of course **Dean Ward**. Our hearts go out to their families.

When I think back, I kick myself for not keeping in touch with old friends, until they are gone. Most of us just take

things for granted. You think about old partners and friends and you pass it off saying to yourself, "Oh they'll be around. I'll call and maybe see them next year when I take my trip." But something always comes up and you put it off until it is too late. So, gang, I have turned to the old motto "Don't put off until tomorrow, what you can do today." It still holds true.

Well we asked for rain and boy did we get it. It rained so hard March 3rd that the wiper blade could not take care of keeping the windshield clear. We happened to be on the freeway, and it was the worst rainstorm that I have seen for years. And like I have always said, the idiots don't know how to drive in wet weather. I originally came from Oregon/Washington state and learned early to respect the driving in the rain. They still drive 80 to 90 regardless. Where are the Highway Patrol? Being smart and keeping off the freeways I guess.

I have been trying to find a guest speaker of some kind of entertainment for the April 9th luncheon, but so far I have not been able to engage anyone. Thought I had a great speaker, a former astronaut and now a test pilot at Edwards Air Force Base. He was willing to come, but I had to tell him "We will get in touch with you" when he told me his fee was \$750 for a 40 minute to 60 minute presentation. I hear he is good, but who can afford it? We are a nonprofit club. But I am still looking. Maybe I will come up with something everyone will enjoy like I said. I have to write this article and get it in by March 6th in order for it to come out in the April issue, so you see I've got a month.

The next luncheon will be Wednesday, April 9, 2003, at the Anchor restaurant,

2524 S. Florida Ave., Hemet, Calif. Lunch is at noon, social hour starts at 11:00 a.m. Tariff is still \$12 per person. Come out and join us. You'll be glad you did.

Continuing on with the members: **Pete Petteys**, **William J. Perry**, Capt. **Robert Perry**, **James Pena**, **Walter Peters**, **Floyd Phillips**, Sr. **Frank Pfost**, **Neil Parker**, **Robert Pratt**, **Jim Pathé**, **Raymond Paladino**, **Rene Payan**, **Charles Reese**, **Ben Reineke**, **Ted Rushton**, **Raymond Rush**, **William T. Roberts**, **Tom Reddin**, **Mack Rhodes**, **David Rotbart**, **Joe Reed**, **Fred Risen**, **Corki Rochlitz**, **Carl Rogers**, **Michael Rhine**, **Wayne Ridders**, **Ed Ramirez**. More next month until we complete 31. Yes, we all have name tags so you won't have any trouble identifying who we are. Some of us have changed drastically. We've lost our curly locks and now we're bald. Some of us are a bit overweight from what we were on the job. Some of us have let our hair grow long and sport a full beard. Some of us sport new glasses and purchased new hearing aids. Yes some of us have changed, but we will be glad to have you visit us. We will even give you a large, bold badge to identify you. And if you want to join the club, it is \$10 per year per family. So that's pretty low entertainment.

So remember, be careful, buckle up. It's a jungle out there. We want to keep you around for a long time. Oh yes, if you want to call and bitch about anything I have said or just talk, my phone is still the same: 909-925-4491.

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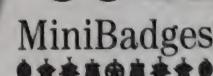
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Sacramento Area Blue Line Association (S.A.B.L.A.)

by Ed Lewandowski

Dateline: Sacramento Area Blue Line Association (SABA). Well, if it's April, you know what that means. 1. Baseball is in full swing (batter, batter, batter); 2. If you haven't taken care of your taxes by now, you got to get a move on as time is getting short; 3. **Bernie Remas** will be back in town after his winter hiatus to Florida. He sent me an e-mail telling me that he and his wife, **Judy**, would be leaving Florida on March 25th for New York (probably going to Rochester and Jamestown—what, no Buffalo?). From there, they plan on driving west, back to Sacramento and Roseville. They estimate on arriving around April 15th. Are your taxes done, Bernie?

Our next meeting is scheduled for 1130 on April 10th at Friends Restaurant in Rancho Cordova. We'll have one of our department's retired finest to be our guest speaker. He's none other than **Frank Moore**. I worked with Frank at LAX when he was assigned to Patrol in Venice (I mean Pacific) Division, while I was in OCID at LAX. Frank retired from LAPD and went on to work (did I say work?) at the California Horse Racing Board. Frank is currently a chief with the CHRB and is now living in Sacramento. I've been trying to get him to join SABA for about the last two years, but I guess the best way to get him to a SABA luncheon is to invite him as a guest speaker.

We had a nice turnout for our February meeting. SABA President **Chuck Crawford** was absent due to a special community event that he had to attend. Our Secretary, **Hoy Key**, welcomed 18 members to the affair. **Bob Markussen** introduced our guest speaker, Nevada County Sheriff **Keith Royal** and his secretary, **Donna Nelson**. The Sheriff was with the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department for 28 years and retired from SSD as an Executive Lieutenant before being elected to his current position. He also comes from a long family line of law enforcement officers. Royal also worked as an investigator for the DMV out of the Van Nuys office. It was good to hear him talk about how the federal agencies are now sharing more information with the local agencies as a result of the 911 tragedy. Nevada County has an authorized staff of 200 personnel including 71 sworn deputies and 55 cor-

rectional officers.

It was good to see **Norm Roberge** at the February meeting. He's been MIA for a long time. Others in attendance included **Bob Keel**, **Al Ferrero** who is becoming a regular attendee (way to go, Al). Also present were **Joe Sandoval**, **Chuck Ward**, **Roy Kerton**, **George Puddy**, **Carl Kuehn**, **Jim Meskan**, **Ray Lauritzen** and **Art Nevarez**. It's always good to see **Jim Byrd** who continues to drive in from Angwin (located in the Napa Valley). Those representing El Dorado County included myself (Ed Lewandowski), **Tony (5th Wheeler) Baldassano** and **Dennis McDonald**. Tony has been spending a lot of time at Comanche Lake lately! Dennis let it be known to me that I keep spelling his name wrong in the *Blue Line* articles. He wanted me to know that in no uncertain terms he is "Mc" (Irish) and not a "Mac" (Scottish). Well, Dennis, as you can read, I mean see, I wrote your last name with the "Mc." Okay?

Nothing new to report on our stolen check caper. All the investigators tell me is "We're working on it." The \$100 check was a donation to SABA from **Ron & Marilyn Kiser's** Wine Country BBQ.

Travel Note: I had the pleasure of taking eight El Dorado County Law Enforcement Explorers to Seattle for the 2003 Western Regional Explorer Conference competitions from February 20 to 23. While it was mostly cloudy, wet and cold (it was a beautiful sunny day on Sunday the 23rd), I must compliment the hosting agencies, especially the Seattle Police Department. Their hospitality was outstanding. They met us at SEATAC Airport upon our arrival and provided us with transportation to our hotel downtown.

On our "free day" (Saturday), they also provided transportation to and from the Boeing (Aircraft) Museum of Flight. If you're ever in the Seattle area, make that a definite place to visit. Allow yourself a minimum of three hours to view the aircraft and equipment on display at the facility. The first Boeing 707 Presidential jet is among the many different types of aircraft on display and is available to walk through. They have a very good snack bar/restaurant. The menu is well rounded; the food is very good and all reasonably priced. We also took in the Space Needle (520 feet above ground), followed by a WHA hockey game between Portland and Seattle. And

like most tourists, we visited the Pike Market Place. That's where you get to see the "fish throwers" tossing tuna, crab, lobster and huge shrimp. And I mean huge (enough already).

While we didn't fare too well in the competition, we did have a great time. Over 400 Advisors and Explorers from six states (CA, WA, NV, MT, AZ and HA) were in attendance. Honolulu P.D. came

the farthest. It was great to see LAPD Devonshire Division represented.

Well that's all I have to report on for this month. I'll be writing next month's copy unless Mr. Remas is back in time to resume his journalistic duties. It's been a pleasure! Don't forget our upcoming meetings (April 10 and May 8). Meanwhile, y'all take care and go easy on the Easter candy. ♦

RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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J.R.'s rap sheet

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10-13-77	Central
8-14-78	P-2 Central
9-24-78	Communications Div.
4-B-79	Wilshire
8-24-80	Juvenile Narcotics
1-B-81	Wilshire
5-31-81	P-3 Asian Crimes Section
3-4-84	DSP Gangs
7-6-86	Rampart Div.
9-14-86	D-1 Robbery Homicide
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SGT-II Jeffrey A. Hanson 15701 Labor Relations	33
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D-III Ewing "J.R." Kwock 21819 RHD	26
P-III+1 Vicki M. McCormick 23357 North Hollywood	21

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F-17

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A-8

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L01-02

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B00-02

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F-14

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L00-02

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G00-02

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A-12

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B03-01

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A00-01

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A-5

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D-11

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L02-01

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G02-03

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F02-03

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D01-03

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L02-03

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D03-03

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L02-04

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D02-03

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B-8

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Classified advertisers must be members of the LAPPL, and advertising may be for sale or rental of personal items ONLY. All new ads or ad changes

should be typed or legibly handwritten and submitted on or before the deadline date (the 6th of the month prior to issue, i.e.: March 6th is the deadline for the April issue) in the attention of Mark Deitch, The Thin Blue Line, 4444 Riverside Drive, Suite 202, Burbank, CA 91505. Ads or ad changes will not be taken over the phone. Please include a check or money order payable to The Thin Blue Line and a note indicating the number of months you wish your ad to be published. Rates for members of the LAPPL are \$10 per month for every 35 words.

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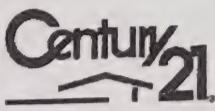
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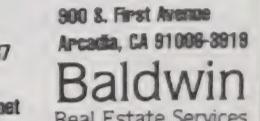


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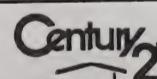
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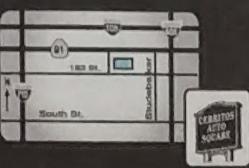
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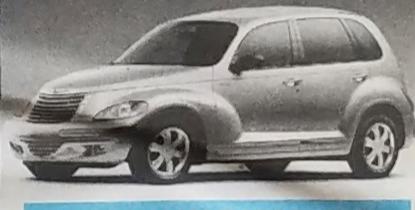
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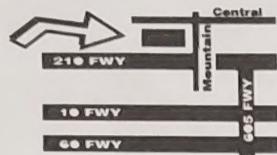
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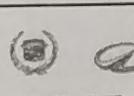
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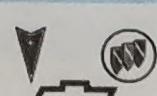
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